

BLACK DIAMOND
WESTERN

AUTHORIZED
A. C. M. P.



BLACK



10¢

DIAMOND

WESTERN

OCT.
NO. 27

LEV GLEASON, PUB., CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

A
FULL-SIZE
52 page
MAG!



THIS LASSO IS OUR ONLY HOPE, RELIAPON! IF WE FAIL THIS INDIAN TASK, WE DIE!

CHARLES BIRO

LEV GLEASON
PUBLICATIONS



WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT PIMPLES

Acne, Blackheads, and other externally caused Skin Blemishes

WHEN pimply skin is your problem, the first thing to get straight is that you *can* and *should* do something about it. To develop the attractiveness of your face is not mere vanity. It is an "open sesame" towards bringing the real YOU closer to other people and giving your personality the poise and confidence it needs. Your good qualities — intelligence, character, dignity — all go to naught... are completely cancelled out by a skin that "nobody loves to touch." Remember, the YOU that people see first is your face.

SKIN PROBLEMS

DEMAND IMMEDIATE CARE

Medical statistics tell us that blemished skin usually occurs from adolescence on through adult life. The problem at the adolescent stage is serious enough to deserve attentive care as a family matter. In adulthood, when life's responsibilities are so much weightier, it is doubly important to exert great effort to eliminate these blemishes. And, there is no better time to get pimples under control than *now*.

DON'T ABUSE SKIN

The first instinctive reaction to pimples and blackheads is to squeeze them out with your fingers.

A bit of experimentation along these lines soon provides convincing proof that this succeeds only in inflaming your skin and spreading the infection.

Under no circumstances should pimples and blackheads ever be squeezed.



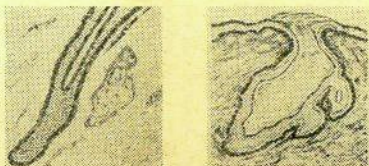
MICROSCOPE SHOWS IMPORTANT BASIS FOR EXTERNALLY CAUSED PIMPLES AND BLACKHEADS

Let's take a look through the microscope to see what's behind those unsightly pimples. The high-powered lenses show your skin coated with a covering which originated from two sources—one, internally and the other, externally.

The internal substances on your skin include dead cells, residue from the sweat glands, and a high quantity of oil excreted by the sebaceous glands. A most important factor in skin disorders occurs when thousands of these tiny sebaceous glands discharge more oil than the skin can use for lubrication. Unless special care is given, the oil forms a heavy film which attracts foreign matter to your skin much as any oil mop picks up dust. These infectious external substances may be classified into three general groups:

1. Airborne materials such as dust, pollens, condensation products of smoke, vapors, etc.
2. Materials brought in contact with the skin, such as tiny fragments of clothing, bedding, cosmetics.
3. Micro-organisms such as bacteria and fungi.

See the difference between a healthy skin and a pimply skin in the microscopic reproductions below.



A. Normal skin B. Sick, pimply skin

Diagram A shows a normal-size, smoothly functioning sebaceous gland. Diagram B pictures sick, pimply skin. Notice that the sebaceous gland is a swollen mass of trapped oil, waste and infectious bacteria.

TRY THIS SENSIBLE WAY

Two sensible aims to achieve in controlling this skin condition are: to clear the pores of clogging matter, and to inhibit the excessive oiliness of the skin. Toward these ends, Dornol Products' research makes available two formulas. One is to aid in thorough cleansing by highly detergent penetration which simplifies the removal of waste and foreign matter. The other is to discourage oiliness with clinically-proved ingredients, and to kill infec-



tious bacteria often associated with externally caused pimples and blackheads.

BLEMISHES COVERED UP

To remove the distressing embarrassment of these skin blemishes, the second Dornol formula exerts a "cover-up" action on your broken out skin while the medication does its work. This, plus its pleasant odor, will spare you the mental distress which is associated with unsightly, malodorous, medicated preparations. Imagine! You can apply this Dornol formula to your skin by day and face the immediate present with greater confidence in your appearance, while secure in the knowledge that medication is acting to remove old blemishes and keep away new ones. What this "cover-up" action alone is worth in peace of mind is beyond calculation. No longer need prying eyes make you wince with humiliation and misery. Now because of this wonderful feature of the Dornol treatment, you can put your best foot forward... at once!

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

OR

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK

We know what the Dornol treatment has done for others, so we want you to try it at our risk. A few minutes a day invested in our treatment can yield more gratifying results than you ever dared hope for. This is what we say to you: If you are not delighted in every way by the improved condition and general appearance of your skin in just 10 days, simply return the unused portion and we will refund not only the price you paid — but **DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK** — anything fairer than that? You have everything to gain... and we take all the risk!

How to get the Dornol Treatment

immediately: Just send your name and address to DORNOL PRODUCTS, Inc., Dept. 1007-C.363 Central Park Ave. Yonkers, N. Y. Be sure to print clearly. By return mail we will ship the Dornol treatment to you in a plain package. When the postman delivers the package, pay on \$1.98 plus postage. Or, if you wish to save postal fee, send \$2 now and we will prepay postage. Which ever way you order, the **DOUBLE REFUND GUARANTEE** still prevails. Don't delay another minute, send for the Dornol Medicated Skin treatment with "cover-up" feature... at once! Sorry no Canadian C.O.D.'s.

BLACK DIAMOND

in "THE SEVEN DEADLY DEEDS"

CUT OUT AND SAVE!



SEE FREE VALUABLE TRADING CARD OFFER, FOLLOWING THIS STORY

SEVEN DAYS...SEVEN TASKS... SEVEN CHANCES TO DIE! THAT WAS CHIEF LIMPING OTTER'S GRIM ULTIMATUM TO BLACK DIAMOND, FABULOUS MARSHAL OF THE 1870'S! TO FAIL MEANT THE DEATH OF A THOUSAND ARROWS! YET NEVER FOR THE MASKED HERO NEVER SEEMED SO IMPOSSIBLE AS IT DID IN THE HARROWING ADVENTURE OF "THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS"!

HERE GOES! THIS IS THE FIRST OF THE SEVEN TASKS - TO CROSS THE RAPIDS! IF I FAIL, IT'S THE END OF RELIAPON, EL LOBO AND ME!



AT A REMOTE SPOT IN THE HILLS, TWO MEN WAIT IMPATIENTLY AMONG THE JACK PINES FOR THE SOUND OF AN APPROACHING RIDER...

HERE HE COMES, RUFFE - AT LAST!

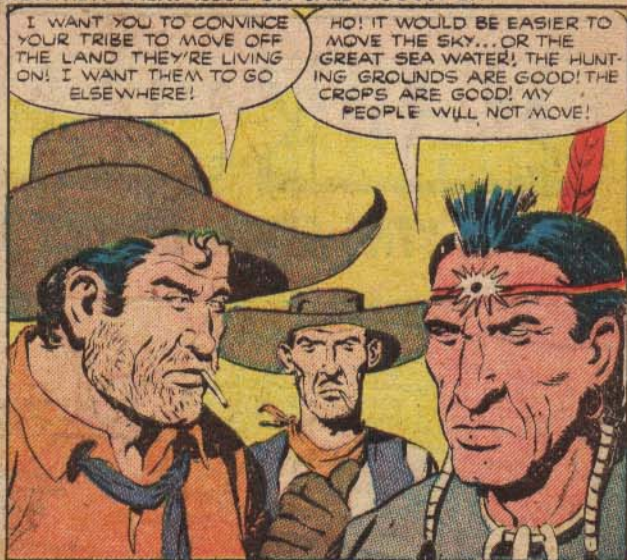
SURE, I KNEW HE WOULD! I'VE DEALT WITH LONE BUFFALO BEFORE! HE'D BETRAY HIS OWN MOTHER FOR A COIN!





I AM LATE! BUT I HAD TO MAKE SURE I WASN'T FOLLOWED!

GOOD! BECAUSE IF YOUR PEOPLE KNEW WHAT'S GOING ON AT THIS MEETING, WE'D BE THREE DEAD FISH!



I WANT YOU TO CONVINCE YOUR TRIBE TO MOVE OFF THE LAND THEY'RE LIVING ON! I WANT THEM TO GO ELSEWHERE!

HO! IT WOULD BE EASIER TO MOVE THE SKY...OR THE GREAT SEA WATER! THE HUNTING GROUNDS ARE GOOD! THE CROPS ARE GOOD! MY PEOPLE WILL NOT MOVE!



YES! THEY WILL...WHEN WE PUT MY PLAN TO WORK! FIRST YOU TELL THEM AT THE COUNCIL THAT YOU HAD A VISION, IN WHICH THE GREAT MYSTERY CAME TO YOUR LODGE AND TOLD YOU THE LAND WILL BE BLIGHTED...



THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME! THEY WILL DEMAND PROOF!

AND AS TRIBAL MEDICINE MAN, YOU'LL GIVE THEM PROOF! SEE THIS POWDER! IT'S A MILD POISON... BUT IT'LL KILL THE CROPS! IT'LL ALSO KILL FISH IN STREAMS AND MAKE PEOPLE SLIGHTLY SICK WHEN THEY DRINK IT IN THE WATER!



I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND! THERE WILL BE MANY, MANY MORE COINS FOR YOU LATER!

IT WILL REQUIRE MANY, MANY MORE COINS FOR IF THEY EVER FIND ME OUT...



LATER, AFTER LONE BUFFALO DEPARTS...

OUR MEDICINE MAN WAS SO OCCUPIED BY THE GLITTER OF THE COINS THAT HE NEVER THOUGHT OF ASKING US WHY WE WANTED THE INDIANS TO CLEAR OUT!

I HAD COUNTED ON JUST THAT! YOU SEE, IT WOULD BE AWKWARD TO EXPLAIN ABOUT THE GOLD DEPOSITS IN THE GROUND! LET'S RIDE BACK TO THE CABIN! I'M A HUNGRY MAN!



MEANWHILE, SEVERAL MILES AWAY...

YOU KNOW, DIAMOND, I'M BEGINNIN' TO THINK THOSE TWO CRITTERS WE WERE SENT AFTER MIGHT'VE DOUBLED BACK AND HEADED EAST AGAIN!

WELL, LET'S MAKE CAMP HERE FOR THE NIGHT, BUMPER! RELIAPON AND EL LOBO NEED SOME REST!

ORDERS ARE TO FIND THEM AND BRING THEM IN! WE'LL RESUME OUR SEARCH IN THE MORNING!



THE NEXT MORNING AS DAWN SPREADS OVER EASTERN SKIES IN CRIMSON HUE...



NOW WHAT DO WE DO FOR BREAKFAST?

THAT'S NOT MUCH OF A PROBLEM... WITH BERRIES IN THE WOODS AND FISH IN THE STREAM!

FISH... YEAH! PLENTY OF 'EM! BUT THEY'RE ALL DEAD!

TROUT JUST DON'T ROLL OVER AND DIE LIKE FLIES! LET'S GO UPSTREAM AND SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING!



PALEFACES! THEY'VE SEEN ME!

LOOK!

COME ON!



GO AFTER HIM, BUMPER! KEEP HIM IN SIGHT! RELIAPON AND I WILL CATCH UP!



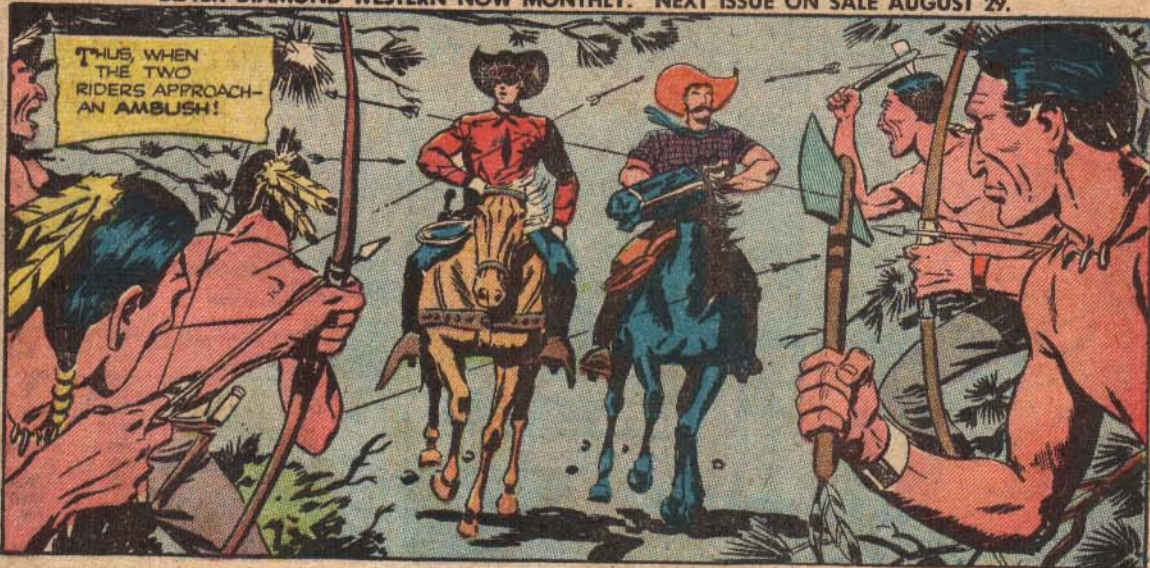
IT'S CYANIDE! I CAN TELL BY THE SMELL! HE'S BEEN POISONING THE WATER! NO WONDER ALL THOSE FISH WERE DEAD!

IT IS MOMENTS LATER, WHEN LONE BUFFALO RIDES INTO THE INDIAN VILLAGE... AND THERE BEGINS A CUNNING SCHEME...

I WILL SAVE MY LIFE... AND DOOM THE PALEFACES...

I WAS RIDING BY THE RIVER... TWO PALEFACES WERE CASTING A STRANGE POWDER UPON THE WATERS... THE FISH ARE DYING... THE PALEFACES SAW ME... EVEN NOW THEY COME TO KILL ME...





THUS, WHEN THE TWO RIDERS APPROACH— AN AMBUSH!



?PUFF-PUFF? TOO MANY OF 'EM, DIAMOND... LOOKS LIKE CURTAINS!



THEN... WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? YOU BRAVES ARENT ON THE WARPATH! I DEMAND TO SPEAK TO CHIEF LIMPING OTTER!

AND I SHALL HEAR YOU... BUT THEY SHALL BE YOUR LAST WORDS, PALEFACES!



WHAT MEANS THIS, PALEFACES? YOU POISON STREAM NEAR OUR VILLAGE! YOU SEEK TO KILL ONE OF MY PEOPLE WHO SAW YOU!

THAT IS NOT TRUE, CHIEF! IT WAS THE 'MEDICINE MAN WHO WAS POISONING THE STREAM!



LIES! ALL LIES! SEE HERE! THE BAG OF POWDER IS YET TIED TO HIS SADDLE!

I PICKED IT UP AT THE STREAM! I BROUGHT IT AS EVIDENCE! THOSE ARE TRUE WORDS!

LONE BUFFALO TOLD ONLY LAST NIGHT OF A VISION IN WHICH THE GREAT MYSTERY CAME TO HIM... AND SAID OUR LAND WOULD BE BLIGHTED! WE BELIEVED HIM NOT! FOOLS WE WERE! FOR NOW YOU COME TO BLIGHT THE LAND AND THE WATER! WHY? SPEAK!



I SAY AGAIN...IT WAS LONE BUFFALO WHO PUT THE POWDER IN THE WATER! AS A SERVANT OF THE GREAT WHITE FATHER, I GIVE YOU MY WORD ON THIS!



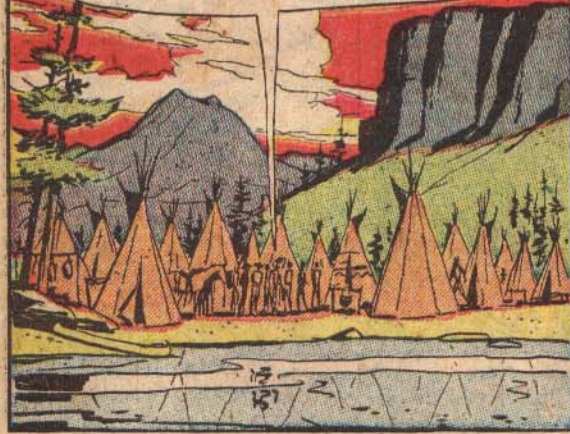
THE WORD OF THE PALEFACE IS LIKE THE HISS OF THE SNAKE...IT IS NOT TO BE TRUSTED, BUT...



...I HAVE HEARD MANY LEGENDS OF BLACK DIAMOND! THE LEGENDS SPEAK OF A GALLANT AND TRUE MAN! THAT IS WHAT PUZZLES ME NOW! BUT...COME TO THE VILLAGE! I SHALL MAKE MY DECISION THERE!



LATER... IT IS THE CUSTOM OF THE BRAVE TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE BY THE SEVEN TASKS OF THE MOON OF THE WILD CHERRY! IF YOU FAIL, IT SHALL BE THE DEATH OF THE THOUSAND ARROWS FOR YOU! IT SHALL BE YOUR GUILT...



BUT IF YOU SUCCEED, THEN IT PROVES LONE BUFFALO LIED! AND FOR THAT, LONE BUFFALO KNOWS THE PENALTY! TOMORROW WE START THE TASKS!



THAT NIGHT, AS PRISONERS IN A TEEPEE...

OUR HORSES ARE NEARBY, DIAMOND! RELIAPON AND EL LOBO CAN OUTFRIN THESE INDIAN PONIES! LET'S MAKE A BREAK!

NO, BUMPER! MORE GOES ON HERE THAN MEETS THE EYE! I WANT TO KNOW WHAT LONE BUFFALO IS UP TO! I AM TO FIND OUT!



MEANWHILE, LONE BUFFALO STEALS OUT OF CAMP AND GALLOPS TO A SHACK IN THE HILLS...

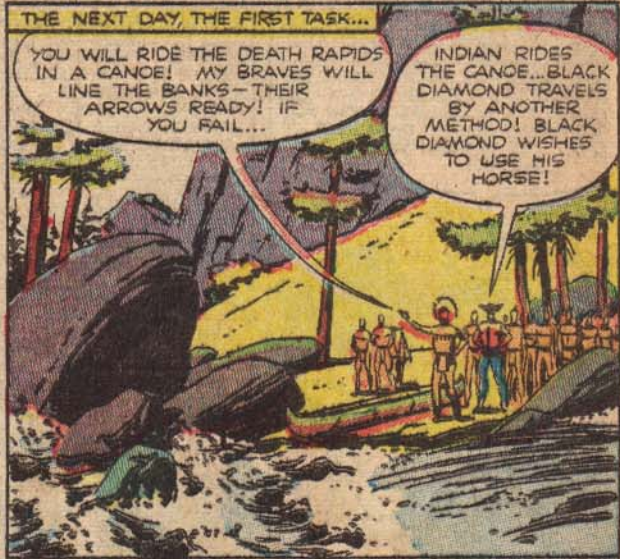
LONE BUFFALO! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

THERE HAS BEEN TROUBLE! IT IS LIKE THE DARKENING CLOUDS OF A STORM HOVERING OVER US!





SOME STORY YOU TELL! SO BLACK DIAMOND SAW YOU WITH THE POWDER... BUT YOU GOT AWAY IN TIME TO PUT THE BLAME ON HIM! THAT COOKS HIS GOOSE! WE'LL MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T PASS THE TESTS!



THE NEXT DAY, THE FIRST TASK...

YOU WILL RIDE THE DEATH RAPIDS IN A CANOE! MY BRAVES WILL LINE THE BANKS—THEIR ARROWS READY! IF YOU FAIL...

INDIAN RIDES THE CANOE...BLACK DIAMOND TRAVELS BY ANOTHER METHOD! BLACK DIAMOND WISHES TO USE HIS HORSE!



SO IT SHALL BE!

LET'S GO, RELIAPON! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!



ALL IS READY... THEN THE GREAT HORSE TAKES TO THE WATERS...

STEADY, BOY! WATCH YOUR FOOTING! WE CAN'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES!



NOT EVEN A FISH CAN DO THAT! I'M ALMOST APPRAID TO LOOK!



UP, BOY, UP! STEADY DOES IT!



NOT MUCH FARTHER TO GO, RELIAPON! WATCH OUT FOR THAT BOULDER AHEAD!

AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT, HIDDEN IN THE UNDER-BRUSH NEAR THE STREAM...



NO, YOU FOOL! NOT NOW—THIS ISN'T THE TIME!

THEN RELIAPON MAKES ONE TREMENDOUS LEAP OVER A RISING BOULDER WHICH HAD BROUGHT DESTRUCTION TO MANY A CANOE IN THE PAST...

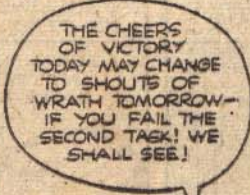


GOOD BOY, RELIAPON! YOU'VE MADE IT!

...AND AS HE TROTS INTO THE SOFT-SWIRLING 'EDDIES BEYOND...THE RAPIDS CLEARED...



WE MADE IT! LISTEN TO THEM CHEER US! YOU DID WHAT NO CANOE COULD DO!



THE CHEERS OF VICTORY TODAY MAY CHANGE TO SHOUTS OF WRATH TOMORROW—IF YOU FAIL THE SECOND TASK! WE SHALL SEE!

THE SECOND DAY—THE SECOND TASK—OBTAINING A RARE FLOWER THAT GROWS ON THE SHEER DROPS OF SOARING MISTY MOUNTAIN...



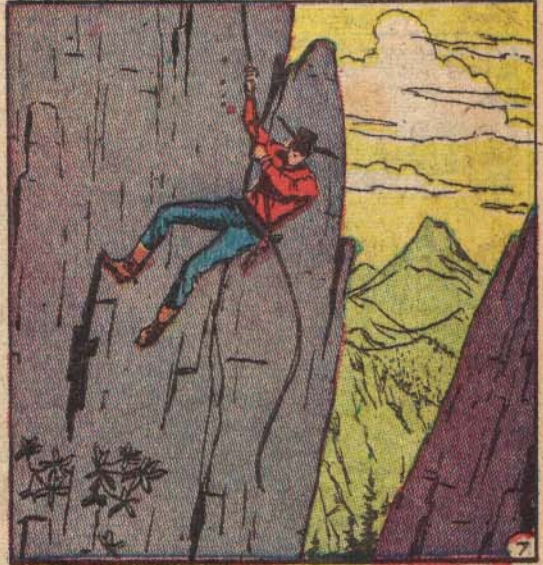
WELL, BOY, IF THERE ARE ANY SLIP-UPS HERE THEY'LL HAVE TO PICK UP THE PIECES HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW!



THEN...

OVER I GO FOR A FLOWER-PICKING JOB TO SAVE MY LIFE!

DOWN, DOWN, DESCENDS—THE FAMED MARSHAL, CLOSER AND CLOSER TO THE COVETED FLOWERS...





GOT 'EM!



THE ROPE!
IT CAN
BREAK
AT ANY
MOMENT!

BUT AT
THAT
MOMENT
A NEW
MENACE
PRESENTS
ITSELF!
THE EDGE
OF THE
CLIFF
BEGINS
FRAYING
THE
ROPE...

RELIAPON, SENSING HIS MASTER'S PERIL, INCHES TOWARD THE EDGE, RELIEVING THE FRAYED SECTION...



GOOD
BOY! I'LL
PULL MY-
SELF UP!

AND SOMETIME LATER, DIAMOND PRESENTS CHIEF LIMPING OTTER WITH THE RARE FLOWERS...



AGAIN, SUCCESS!
IT HAS BEEN MANY,
MANY MOONS SINCE ANY
BUT THE EAGLE, COULD
REACH THE FLOWERS!
AH, BUT FIVE MORE
TASKS REMAIN!

...AND ON A NEARBY LEDGE OVERLOOKING THE SCENE...

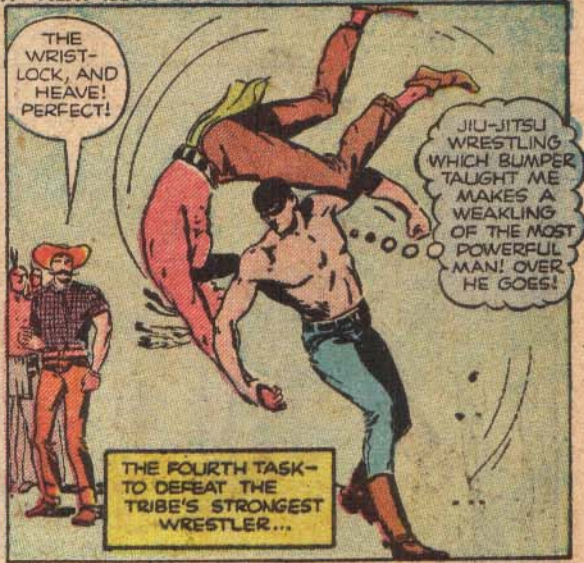
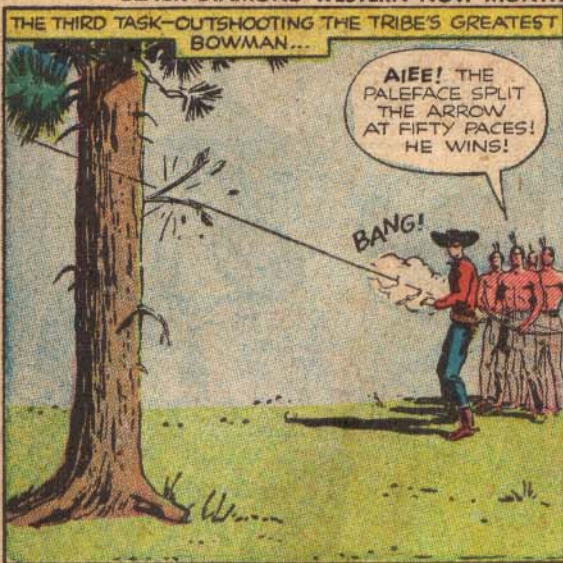


AGAIN VICTORY
WAS HIS! TIME
GROWS
SHORT!

WE HAVE FIVE MORE
DAYS... AND PLENTY OF
CHANCES TO GET RID
OF BLACK DIAMOND!
BUT WE CAN'T SPOIL
THINGS! WE MUST
WAIT OUT OUR
CHANCE!



WE'LL STICK TO HIS TRAIL, BUT OUT OF
SIGHT! WE'LL WATCH HIS EVERY MOVE!
AND WHEN THE TIME COMES, IT'S
GOOD-BY TO THE LAWMAN!



THUS, ALONE AND WEAPONLESS, DIAMOND RIDES INTO THE TIMBER COUNTRY, SEEKING A CREATURE WHICH—ONCE ENRAGED, KNOWS NO FIGHTING MASTER AMONG LIVING THINGS!

AND ALL THE WHILE, SINISTER CREATURES FOLLOW BEHIND...



I'LL SEARCH FOR HIM AMONG THE BERRY PATCHES AND AMONG THE CAVES THAT LINE THE CRAGGY HILLSIDES!



YOU SEE, A BULLET HOLE IN HIM WILL GIVE US AWAY—SO WE'LL SHOOT HIM ONLY AS A LAST RESORT!

I GROW IMPATIENT LIKE THE COUGAR WAITING FOR THE DEER!

NO MORE IMPATIENT THAN I AM! BUT WE'RE GOING TO TRY AND ARRANGE FOR THE GRIZZLY TO GET HIM! IF THE GRIZZLY MISSES— THEN WE MOVE IN!

MEANWHILE, AT A YAWNING BLACK CAVERN ENTRANCE, RELIAPON WHINES SOFTLY...

WHOA, BOY! SOMETHING'S IN THERE, EH? WE'LL HAVE A LOOK-SEE!

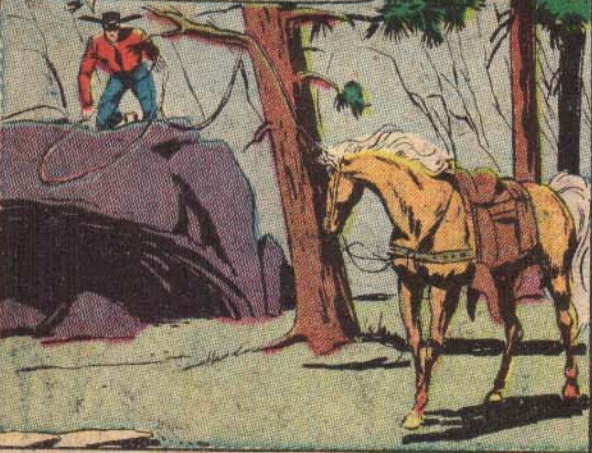
GRIZZLY TRACKS! WE'RE IN LUCK—OR ARE WE? IT WON'T BE LUCKY FOR EITHER OF US IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG!



CAREFUL PREPARATIONS ARE COMPLETED AND...

GET READY TO MOVE IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG, RELIAPON! I'VE TOSSED SOME STONES IN THE ENTRANCE TO DISTURB HIM! HE'LL COME OUT ANY SECOND NOW!

AS THE MASKED MARSHAL PREDICTS, THE GREAT SNARLING GRIZZLY CHARGES OUT...



HERE GOES!

IN AN INSTANT THE RAGING TERROR IS DRAWN HELPLESSLY INTO MID-AIR...



NOW TO BIND HIS LEGS AND WE'LL DELIVER A REAL LIVE KICKING GRIZZLY TO LIMPING OTTER!

HERE'S THE FINISH—WE'VE GOT BLACK DIAMOND GOLD!

A PERFECT SHOT SEVERS THE ROPE, AND THE CLAWING CREATURE DROPS...



CRACK!

HE'S FREE!!



RELIAPON'S UP TO SOMETHING—AND I CAN'T FIGURE OUT JUST WHAT! HE'S PURPOSELY BAITING THE BEAR! AND HE'S SMART ENOUGH NOT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM!



NOW WHAT'S THE PALOMINO UP TO?

AT THAT MOMENT RELIAPON KICKS AT SOME STONES ON THE SLOPE, THEN LEAPS QUICKLY AWAY—AND THE GRIZZLY CHARGES IN, TOO LATE TO AVOID A LANDSLIDE!



WHROOSH!!



THEN, EMERGING FROM AMID THE TREES...

WE CAME ALONG TO WITNESS EVERYTHING—AND LOOK WHO WE FOUND! IT WAS THESE CRITTERS SHOT THE ROPE! AND IS LIMPING OTTER MAD! HE'S AWARE OF THE WHOLE PLOT NOW!

DON'T LET THE INDIANS

TAKE US, BLACK DIAMOND, AND WE'LL CONFESS EVERYTHING. THE GOLD, THE POISON POWDER—EVERYTHING!



YOU HAVE PROVEN TO BE A GREAT WARRIOR—EVEN IN THE FACE OF A GRAVE ERROR! YOU MAY TAKE THE TWO PALEFACES BACK TO YOUR JUSTICE—WE WILL SETTLE WITH LONE BUFFALO IN OUR OWN WAY!

FAREWELL, LIMPING OTTER! AND MAY OUR TRAILS CROSS AGAIN! BUMPER AND I WILL RETURN BEFORE LONG!

THE END

QUICK

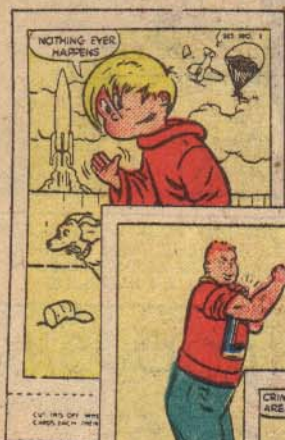
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FREE!

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TO PAY!**

**SENT TO YOU
WITHOUT COST!**

IT'S EASY!



HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO!

YOU WILL FIND A SPECIAL TRADING CARD COUPON ON THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE OF THIS MAGAZINE. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, THESE COUPONS WILL BE FOUND IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING LEV GLEASON COMICS: CRIME DOES NOT PAY, BOY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL AND BLACK DIAMOND.

JUST SEND US **TWO** OF THESE COUPONS AND WE WILL SEND YOU **FREE** ONE SET OF TRADING CARDS. YOU CAN PICK YOUR OWN SETS. THEY ARE LISTED IN THE BOX ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE. THERE ARE 5 SETS IN ALL. COLLECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE. JUST REMEMBER TO SEND TWO COUPONS FOR EACH SET. TAKE THE COUPONS FROM ANY OF THE LEV GLEASON COMICS MENTIONED ABOVE (CRIME DOES NOT PAY, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, DAREDEVIL, BOY AND BLACK DIAMOND). THEY WILL ALL HAVE COUPONS, WAITING FOR YOU, ON THE FIRST PAGE OF EVERY ISSUE.



SET NO. 2
CUT THIS OFF WHEN YOU HAVE TWO COMPLETE GROUPS OF 15 CARDS EACH. THEN MAIL TO US FOR YOUR YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION.

SET NO. 4
CUT THIS OFF WHEN YOU HAVE TWO COMPLETE GROUPS OF 15 CARDS EACH. THEN MAIL TO US FOR YOUR YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION.

SET NO. 2
CUT THIS OFF WHEN YOU HAVE TWO COMPLETE GROUPS OF 15 CARDS EACH. THEN MAIL TO US FOR YOUR YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION.

HERE ARE THE SETS

When you send your coupons, choose the set or sets you want. Order them by number — but each set is COMPLETE and cards in each set CANNOT be changed. Order more sets as you want more cards.



SET NO. 1
SLUGGER
GRUESOME JONES
IRON JAW

SET NO. 3
CHIP GARDNER
BUMPER
CURLY

SET NO. 2
WISE GUYS GROUP
CRIMEBUSTER
AND SQUEEKS
RELIAPON

SET NO. 4
SCARECROW
DAREDEVIL
DILLY DUNCAN

SET NO. 5
BLACK DIAMOND AND RELIAPON
SQUEEKS
HOT ROCK FLANAGAN

THIS IS A SAMPLE OF THE COUPON YOU NEED TO GET YOUR TRADING CARDS. YOU WILL FIND IT ON THE FIRST INSIDE PAGE OF EACH MAGAZINE. THIS SAMPLE COUPON HAS NO VALUE. DON'T USE IT.



SAMPLE COUPON

WHEN YOU SEND YOUR COUPONS, PASTE THEM ON A POST CARD OR ATTACH THEM TO THE HANDY ORDER BLANK ON THIS PAGE. BE SURE TO ORDER YOUR SET BY NUMBER AND BE SURE TO PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY. SEND TO:

PICTURE SET DIVISION,
LEV GLEASON PUBLICATIONS, INC.,
114 E. 32nd STREET,
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL BE CRAZY ABOUT THESE WONDERFUL PICTURES. EACH IS PRINTED ON HEAVY CARD-BOARD 2 3/16" X 3 3/16", IN HANDSOME FULL COLOR. ALL YOUR FRIENDS WILL ENVY YOU. TRADE DUPLICATE CARDS FOR FAVORITES. BUILD UP THE FIRST AND BEST COLLECTION!

ORDER BLANK

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New York 16, N. Y.

Friends:

Enclosed are _____ trading picture coupons cut from Lev Gleason Comics. Please send me the following sets of pictures (2 coupons entitle me to 1 set of 3 pictures).

Set No. 1 Set No. 2 Set No. 3
Set No. 4 Set No. 5

My name is _____ (Please print).

My address is _____ (Please print).

EXTRA BONUS WHEN YOU GET TWO COMPLETE SETS OF ALL THESE CARDS — 30 IN ALL — WE WILL GIVE YOU A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO ANY ONE OF THE ABOVE NAMED MAGAZINES. AT THE BOTTOM OF EACH CARD THERE IS A PERFORATED STRIP. JUST CUT THIS STRIP OFF AND MAIL THE STRIPS — ALL 30 OF THEM — TO US. ENCLOSE A LETTER TELLING US WHICH OF THESE LEV GLEASON COMICS YOU WANT AND REMEMBER TO SEND US YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS. THAT'S ALL. WE'LL START YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WITH THE NEXT ISSUE.

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BLACK DIAMOND

meets treacherous Blue Toad
in "PASTURES OF DEATH"

BUMPER, GET UP! I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THOSE SHEEP ARE HEADING FOR OUR CAMP!

GOSH, BLACK DIAMOND, YOU'RE JITTERY TONIGHT! THOSE SHEEP ARE JUST A BUNCH OF DUMB EWES ATTRACTED BY THE FIRE! SHOO 'EM OFF AND LET'S GET BACK TO SLEEP!



A. LUSTER

FROM A HILLTOP OVERLOOKING RICH PASTURE LAND, THE BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER SURVEY A PEACEFUL SCENE...

SHEEP AND WOLVES DON'T MIX! NEITHER DO KILLERS AND THE BLACK DIAMOND! THE ONLY OUTCOME OF SUCH A COLLISION IS A BATTLE TO THE FINISH WITH THOUSANDS OF LIVES HANGING IN THE BALANCE! HANGING BLACK DIAMOND DID, AS BLOOD RAN IN STREAMS THROUGH THE PASTURES OF DEATH!

THAT'S HOW I LIKE TO SEE SIOUX INDIANS, DIAMOND! NOT ON THE WARPATH SCALPING SETTLERS OR WORSE, BUT OUT RAISING THEIR CROPS, AND GRAZING THEIR SHEEP!

THEIR PEACEFULNESS DEPENDS ON US TOO, BUMPER! WHITE SETTLERS PUSHING INTO ALL CORNERS OF THE WEST ARE BOUND TO MAKE LIFE MISERABLE FOR THE INDIANS IF THEY DON'T DEAL WITH THEM FAIRLY...



TAKE STRONG BOW...THE SIOUX CHIEF WHO OWNS THIS FLOCK! HE GOT THIS GRAZING LAND IN EXCHANGE FOR HELPING U.S. TROOPS PACIFY WAR-LIKE TRIBES IN THE NORTHWEST! YOU WON'T SEE STRONG BOW REACH FOR HIS SCALPING KNIFE UNLESS HE'S WRONGED!

BLACK DIAMOND! WELCOME, FRIEND OF THE RED MAN! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY?



I COME WITH A WARNING, STRONG BOW! MY FRIEND AND I HAVE JUST COME FROM THE SOUTH-KANSAS AND NEBRASKA! THE WHITE SETTLERS HAVE BEEN UNLUCKY! THEIR LANDS ARE SCORCHED BY THE SUN! THERE HAS BEEN NO RAIN! THEIR PASTURE LAND IS DRIED UP!

THIS IS UNFORTUNATE BUT HOW DOES THEIR BAD LUCK AFFECT STRONG BOW'S PEOPLE?



DOZENS OF DESPERATE SHEEP RAISERS ARE DRIVING THEIR SPRING FLOCKS NORTH IN SEARCH OF PASTURE LAND!

BUT THEY ARE WELCOME IN DAKOTA TERRITORY! THERE IS MUCH RICH LAND HERE AND NO LACK OF RAIN! SURELY THEY WILL FIND LAND, BLACK DIAMOND!

YES, STRONG BOW, IF THEY LOOK LONG FOR IT! BUT WHAT IF UNSCRUPULOUS MEN SEE YOUR LANDS AND DECIDE TO LOOK NO FURTHER?

THEY WOULDN'T DARE! THIS LAND WAS GIVEN TO ME BY TREATY! THE SIOUX EARNED THIS LAND WITH THEIR BLOOD SPILLED FOR PEACE!

NOW YOU KNOW WHY I'VE COME, STRONG BOW - TO ASK YOU NOT TO TAKE THE WARPATH IMMEDIATELY! THE QUARREL MAY NOT COME! THE SHEEP RAISERS MAY PUSH ON! BUT IF NOT, PROMISE ME YOU WILL BE PATIENT UNTIL WE ARE AGREED ON THE USE OF FORCE!

I TRUST YOU, BLACK DIAMOND, I PROMISE!



WE WILL FIGHT ANY ROBBERS WHO TRY TO STEAL OUR LANDS FROM US!

A WEEK LATER...

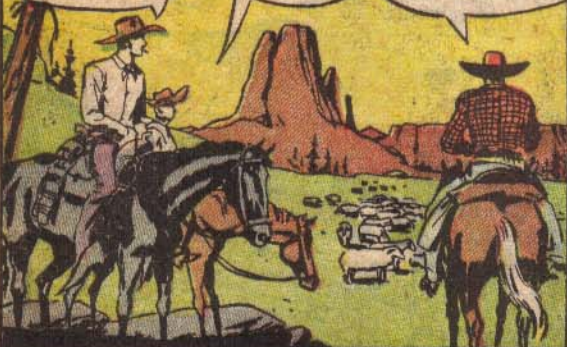
SO YOU LIKE THE LAND, BOYS? GOOD! I KNEW YOU WOULD! ANYBODY WOULD! BEST GRAZING LAND NORTH OF TEXAS! THINK THE SHEEP RAISERS WOULD LIKE IT?

ARE YOU KIDDIN', STRYKER? THEIR TONGUES WILL HANG OUT WHEN THEY SEE IT!

THEY'LL KEEP HANGIN' TOO! THAT'S STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY! THE LAND AGENT CEDED IT TO HIM AND HIS TRIBE AS A REWARD FOR HELPIN' UNCLE SAM!

WELL THEN, WE'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THINGS AROUND A BIT - LIKE THAT LAND AGENT FOR INSTANCE! HE MIGHT DIE SUDDENLY! THEN THERE'LL BE NO LAND AGENT FOR THE STINKING SIOUX TO RUN TO FOR PROTECTION!

I GET YOU, STRYKER! OKAY, THE LAND AGENT GOES! WHAT ABOUT THEM SIOUX? THEY AIN'T GOIN' TO ROLL OVER AN' DIE FOR YOU! NOT STRONG BOW, LEAST WAYS! HE'S A FIGHTER!



SURE, HE'S A FIGHTER! THAT'S GOOD FOR US! IT TAKES TWO TO MAKE A FIGHT! SO TROUBLE STARTS! WHITE MEN GET KILLED! THE SHEEP RAISERS DON'T WORRY ABOUT LAW WHEN THEY SEE THEIR FAMILIES AND PALS SHOT DEAD ABOUT THEM! AN ALL-OUT WAR BREAKS OUT!

LOOK! PALE-FACES!

COME! WE ASK THEM WHAT THEY DO ON OUR LAND!

STRYKER! SIOUX INDIANS! THEY SPOTTED US!

THEY DON'T MEAN NO HARM! THEY GOT THEIR HANDS OUT IN PEACE GREETIN'!

THAT'S TOO BAD FOR THEM! THEY'D HAVE BEEN SMARTER TO KEEP THEIR HANDS ON THEIR GUNS! HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO MAKE TROUBLE, BOYS! COUPLE OF DEAD INJUNS WILL LIGHT A BONFIRE UNDER STRONG BOW'S TAIL!

GREETINGS, PALEFACES! THIS IS STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY! STRONG BOW'S FLOCKS GRAZE HERE! DO YOU COME TO VISIT US?

NOT EXACTLY, REDSKIN! WE COME TO STAY!

TO STAY? I DO NOT UNDERSTAND THIS...

MAYBE THIS WILL MAKE IT CLEARER!...LET 'EM HAVE IT, BOYS!

OHHHH! BANG EAAA!

BANG

LISTEN! GUN SHOTS IN THE DISTANCE!

MIGHT BE A HUNTING PARTY! MIGHT BE THE TROUBLE I WAS EXPECTING! COME ON, BUMPER! FOLLOW US, STRONG BOW!

BANG! BANG!

BEAT IT, BOYS! THOSE SHOTS CARRIED! WHEN THE INJUNS GET HERE, THEY MUST THINK THAT "ASSASSINS UNKNOWN" KILLED THEIR PALS! WHITE, SHEEP-RAISING ASSASSINS! BETWEEN THE GUNS WE'LL SELL AND THE LAND WE'LL RENT TO SHEEP RAISERS, WE'LL PICK UP ENOUGH PIECES TO RAISE SHEEP OURSELVES!

YOU THINK TOO FAST FOR ME, STRYKER! YOU GOT ME GOIN' ROUND IN CIRCLES... BREAK IT DOWN!

WE KILL THE LAND AGENT BUT NOT BEFORE HE GIVES ME THE LAND! THEN I PLAY RED OFF AGAINST WHITE! I TELL LIES! IN THE END, LAND, SHEEP AND MONEY—ALL BECOME MINE!

GREAT! I LIKE THE SETUP! DEGRANCHE, HE WON'T LIKE IT! DEGRANCHE STAKED YOU TO HIS TRIP TO SELL HIS GUNS TO THE INJUNS!

AS STRYKER AND HIS BOYS PAUSE, FAR FROM THE MURDER SCENE...

WHO SAYS I WOULDN'T SELL 'EM? ONLY DEGRANCHE WON'T COLLECT! DEGRANCHE WON'T STOP ME! NOBODY WILL!

NOBODY EVER WILL!

YOU'RE THE BOSS, STRYKER! YOU CALL THE SHOTS! WE'LL FIRE 'EM!



MEANWHILE...

THIS IS WHERE SHOTS COME FROM! WHITE MEN MURDER MY BRAVES!

HERE'S A STRANGE CLUE—AN ENGLISH CIGARETTE WITH TURKISH TOBACCO! THIS KILLER HAS FANCY TASTE AND DOESN'T ROLL HIS OWN! AND HERE'S ANOTHER STRANGE CLUE—A HORSESHOE PRINT FORMING A CORKSCREW CURL AT BOTH ENDS!



THIS POLECAT HAS VERY REFINED TASTE! PROBABLY EXCUSES HIMSELF BEFORE HE PULLS THE TRIGGER!

I HELP BLACK DIAMOND FIND THE KILLERS! YES?

NO, STRONG BOW! THESE OUTLAWS WILL RETURN! ARM YOURSELVES TO PROTECT YOUR LANDS AND FLOCKS! THEN GO TO YOUR LAND AGENT!



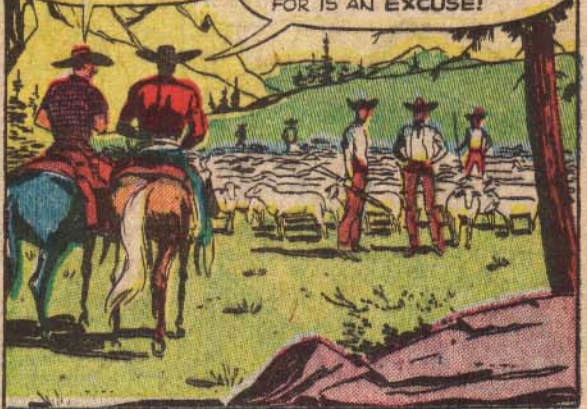
TELL HIM WHAT HAPPENED! TELL HIM YOU FEAR THE ADVANCING SHEEPHERDERS FROM THE SOUTH! HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PREVENT MORE BLOODSHED!

I WILL FOLLOW YOUR ADVICE, FRIEND OF MY PEOPLE! MAY THE GREAT SPIRIT GUIDE YOU ALONG THE TRAIL TO THE MURDERER OF STRONG BOW'S PEOPLE!



THERE THEY ARE NOW, DIAMOND! THE WHOLE STARVING FLOCK OF 'EM! IT'S A WONDER THOSE SHEEP HAVE THE STRENGTH TO KEEP GOING!

THEIR HERDERS BETTER NOT PICK ON STRONG BOW'S PASTURE LAND OR A BLOODY INCIDENT CAN PUT ALL THE SIOUX BRAVES ON THE WAR PATH! ALL REDSKINS LIKE BLUE TOAD ARE LOOKING FOR 15 AN EXCUSE!



NOPE, BLACK DIAMOND! AIN'T RUN ACROSS NO MAN YET WHO BOUGHT HIS BUTTS ALREADY ROLLED! MOST OF US ARE SO BROKE WE AIN'T EVEN GOT THE PRICE OF GREEN ROLLIN' TOBACCO!

MORE IMPORTANT THAN CIGARETTES, DID YOU SEE ANY GRAZIN' LAND, BLACK DIAMOND?

PLENTY OF IT FURTHER NORTH, JUST KEEP DRIVING FIFTY MILES MORE, PAST STRONG BOW'S PASTURE LAND...



BUT SEVERAL HOURS LATER, OUTSIDE LAND AGENT LUDLOW'S OFFICE...

LAND AGENT LUDLOW

SNEAK AROUND TO THE BACK ENTRANCE AND TAKE LUDLOW BY SURPRISE! I WANT HIM TO WRITE A NICE LONG LEGAL LAND DOCUMENT!

GOTCHA, STRYKER! LET'S GO!





EVENING, LUDLOW! ANY NAME IS STRYKER... HERBERT STRYKER! I'M A NEWCOMER TO THIS TERRITORY... I WANT YOU TO DO ME A LITTLE FAVOR...

I'M JUST GETTING READY TO CLOSE UP, STRYKER! CAN'T YOUR BUSINESS WAIT TILL MORNING?

NOPE! YOU MIGHT NOT BE ALIVE IN THE MORNING! RAISE 'EM, LUDLOW!



LISTEN, LUDLOW! WHETHER YOU LIVE OR NOT DEPENDS ON A MESSAGE! WHAT GOES IN THAT MESSAGE DEPENDS ON YOU!

BUT WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? I DON'T UNDERSTAND... I HAVE NO MONEY HERE!



I DON'T WANT MONEY! I WANT LAND - STRONG BOW'S LAND! YOU'RE GOING TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE INDIAN AGENT AT FORT YAVO... TELLING HIM HOW YOU'D DISCOVERED THAT STRONG BOW WAS SECRETLY KILLING WHITE MEN AND STEALING THEIR SHEEP!

B...BUT THIS IS CRIMINAL! STRONG BOW IS A PEACEFUL INDIAN! LIES LIKE THAT WILL PUT THE SIOUX ON THE WARPATH!



WOULD YOU RATHER DIE? WRITE!!

...SINCE STRONG BOW'S WAR-LIKE ACTIONS INVALIDATE THE TERMS OF THIS LAND TREATY, I HEREBY REVOKE STRONG BOW'S RIGHTS AND SELL HIS LAND RIGHTS TO H. STRYKER FOR \$20,000! SIGNED,

LAND AGENT!



OKAY, TED! WE GOT WHAT WE WANT! KILL HIM!

B...BUT YOU PROMISED...

SO WE DON'T KEEP OUR PROMISES! TELL THE SHERIFF!



OKAY, LUDLOW'S DEAD! WHAT NOW?

BURN THE PLACE DOWN! MAKE IT LOOK LIKE IT WAS ROBBED! IT WILL BE, YOU KNOW, AFTER I OPEN THIS SAFE!



SHE'S BURNING NICELY! NOT EVEN THIS RAIN WILL PUT IT OUT... WHAT NEXT, STRYKER?

WATTA YA MEAN... WHAT NEXT? AIN'T WE GOING TO REST? WE BEEN GOIN' LIKE THE DEVIL FOR TWENTY FOUR HOURS! I'M BUSHED!

UNBUSH YOURSELF THEN, RED! WE'RE RIDING TO BLUE TOAD'S VILLAGE!



THAT DOES IT! I'M GOIN' TO FIND MYSELF A NICE GALLOWDS TO HANG MYSELF ON! ANYTHING WOULD BE BETTERN WALKIN' INTO THAT MUEDERIN' COYOTE'S CLUTCHES!

DON'T BE A FOOL! BLUE TOAD'S A FRIEND OF MINE! HE'S EXPECTING ME! BLUE TOAD WANTS GUNS!

COME ON, YOU LOCOWEED! ANY TEPEE IS BETTERN HANGIN' OUT HERE, CATCHING PNEUMONIA!

THREE HOURS LATER, IN BLUE TOAD'S VILLAGE---

AFTER MY VISIT, BLUE TOAD, YOU WILL BE THE LEADER OF A DOZEN MASSACRES! I HAVE A SCHEME WHERE YOU CAN DRAW OTHER TRIBES INTO YOUR ARMY! FIRST YOU'LL GET ENOUGH AMMUNITION TO EQUIP TWO ARMIES! SECOND, YOUR BRAVES WILL ATTACK THE STARVED SHEEP RAISERS DISGUISED AS STRONG BOWS WARRIORS! AS THE PALE-FACES STRIKE BACK AGAINST STRONG BOW, PEACE WILL FALL AWAY FROM THE SIOUX TRIBES!

A YE! THEY WILL FLOCK TO MY VILLAGE, BEGGING FOR GUNS AND LEADERSHIP! WHAT MUST I PAY FOR THESE GUNS, STRYKER?



THIS WILL TICKLE YOU, BLUE TOAD! I'LL WHISPER THE PRICE IN YOUR EAR! P55H552--

SO? HA! HA! YOU ARE A DEVIL HA! HA! MY SIDES ARE SPLITTING! STRYKER, YOU COULD SELL WATER TO THE RAIN! HO! HO! I CAN JUST SEE DEGRANCHE'S FACE!! HA! HA!



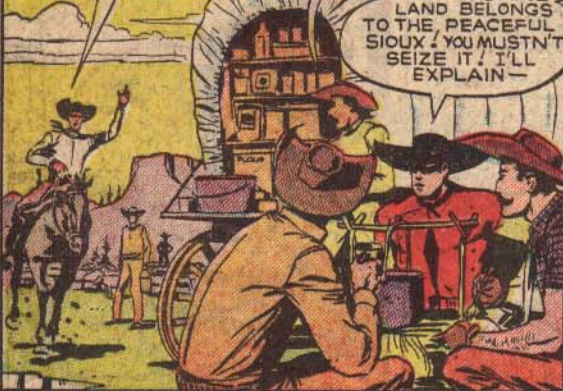
MANY MILES AWAY, THE NEXT DAY IN THE SHEEP MEN'S CAMP...

TO YOUR HORSES! I FOUND A PASTURE BIG ENOUGH TO FEED ALL OUR HERDS! THERE'S ONLY A FEW INJUNS GRAZIN' SHEEP ON IT!

WELL, WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR? LETS GRAB IT!

HERE IT COMES, BUMPER!

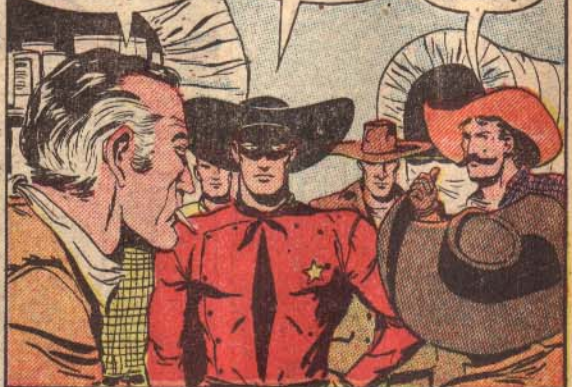
STAY WHERE YOU ARE! THAT PASTURE LAND BELONGS TO THE PEACEFUL SIOUX! YOU MUSTN'T SEIZE IT! I'LL EXPLAIN--



I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, BLACK DIAMOND, IF WE GO IN, KILLIN' STRONG BOW'S PEOPLE FOR THAT LAND, WE'LL TOUCH OFF AN INJUN WAR THAT MIGHT WIPE US OUT!

RIGHT! WE MUST KEEP THE SIOUX HAPPY! WE'VE GOT TO KEEP STRONG BOW ON THE SIDE OF PEACE!

BESIDES, 50 MILES BEYOND STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY THERE'S PLENTY OF GOOD GRAZING LAND!



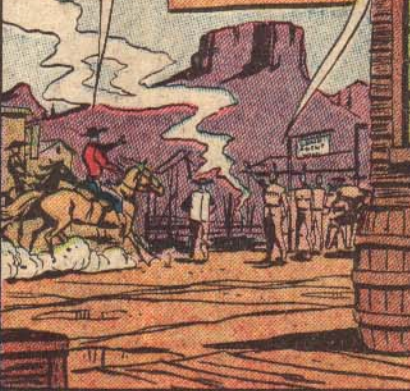
THEY WON'T MAKE TROUBLE, DIAMOND! THEY'RE DESPERATE TO SAVE THEIR FLOCKS, SURE... BUT NOT OVER SOMEBODY ELSE'S DEAD BODY!

YOU'RE RIGHT, BUMPER! THEY'RE GOOD LAW-ABIDING SETTLERS, WE'RE SAFE TO LEAVE THEM AND GO POLE-CAT HUNTING ELSEWHERE! COME ON! WE'LL LOOK UP THE LAND AGENT! HE MIGHT HAVE A LINE ON THE KILLERS!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER--

STRONG BOW! YOU HERE TOO? WHAT HAPPENED?

KILLERS COME LAST NIGHT! KILL LAND AGENT! BURN HIS OFFICE! LOOK AT HOOFPRINTS!



THE SAME CORKSCREW CURL! AND AGAIN THREE RIDERS!

ALSO SAME CIGARETTES YOU FIND YESTERDAY NEAR BODY OF MY BRAVES! KILLER WHO KILL INJUN ALSO KILL WHITE MAN! LUDLOW MY FRIEND! KILLERS DESTROY ALL WHO TAKE MY SIDE!



YES, STRONG BOW!
ELABORATE MURDERS
LIKE THESE ARE A
SMOKE SIGNAL
OF DANGER! GO
BACK TO YOUR
HERDS WHILE I
OVERTAKE THE
MAN WITH THE
ENGLISH
CIGARETTE!

RIDE FAST, MY
FRIEND, MANY
INNOCENTS MAY
DIE BEFORE THE
DEVILS WHO MADE
THOSE HOOF PRINTS
ARE TRAMPLED
INTO THE DUST!

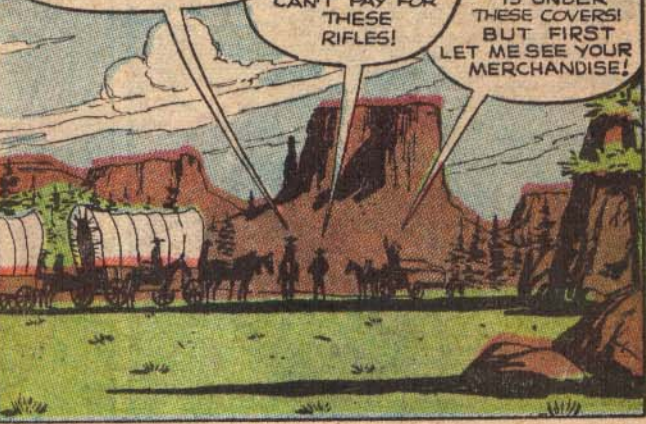


SHORTLY AFTER, NOT FAR AWAY---

GREETINGS, DEGRANCHE!
I HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL!
BLUE TOAD WILL BUY
YOUR ENTIRE STOCK
OF GUNS!

BUT WHAT
WILL HE
PAY WITH?
FURS ALONE
CAN'T PAY FOR
THESE
RIFLES!

DO YOU SEE
THAT COVERED
WAGON? MY
PAYMENT
IS UNDER
THESE COVERS!
BUT FIRST
LET ME SEE YOUR
MERCHANDISE!



AH- THESE
ARE FINE
RIFLES.
DEGRANCHE!
TELL YOUR
MEN TO
UNCOVER
MY WAGON
AND COLLECT
THE RICHES
I BROUGHT
IN EXCHANGE!

IT MUST
BE AT
LEAST
GOLD OR
SILVER!
WHAT
ELSE
CAN PAY
FOR A
FORTUNE
IN GUNS?

WAIT
AND SEE,
DEGRANCHE!
RELAX AND
HAVE A GOOD
CIGARETTE,
IMPORTED
FROM
ENGLAND!



BUT AS DEGRANCHE'S
MEN LIFT THE COVER...

INJUNS!
IT'S A
TRAP!

DEATH TO THE PALEFACE
GUN DEALERS!



B-BUT STRYKER...
YOU'RE ON
MY PAYROLL!
I NEVER
CHEATED
YOU! WHY
DID YOU
TRICK ME?
UGGHHH!

I'M THROUGH
SELLING GUNS
FOR YOU,
DEGRANCHE!
I'M AFTER MY
BIG KILL!



MEANWHILE, AT THAT MOMENT--

YOU'RE RIGHT, BOB! THE
KILLER'S TRAIL LEADS
STRAIGHT TO CHIEF BLUE
TOAD'S CAMP! EITHER
THEY'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH
THE OLD CUTTHROAT
OR THEY'RE PLUMB
CRAZY!

RIFLE SHOTS!
IT MIGHT BE
THEM! COME ON,
BUMPER, WE'LL
FOLLOW THOSE
ECHOES RIGHT
BACK TO
THEIR GUN
BARRELS!



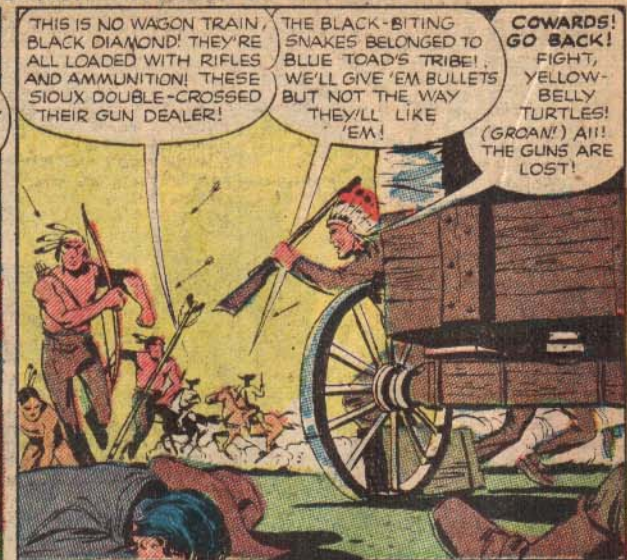
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!

GREAT GUNS, BLUE
TOAD, THAT'S BLACK
DIAMOND! HE MUSTN'T
SEE ME HERE OR MY
USEFULNESS TO
YOU WILL BE
ENDED!

THEN RUN! MY BRAVES
WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM!
ONLY TWO PALEFACES!

LOOK BUMPER!
SIOUX - ATTACKING
A SMALL WAGON
TRAIN!





MEANWHILE, I WILL GO BACK TO TOWN AND PUT IN MY CLAIM FOR STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY! I SHALL HAVE MY LAND AND YOU SHALL HAVE YOUR INDIAN ARMY TO SWEEP THE STUPID PIONEERS INTO THE MISSISSIPPI!

MAY MANITOU SMILE ON OUR DEEDS TONIGHT! GATHER AROUND BRIVES! OUR PALEFACE FRIEND WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO BECOME SHEEP INSTEAD OF WOLVES!

THAT NIGHT IN THE SHEEP MEN'S CAMP...

IN CASE OF ATTACK, MOST OF YOU WILL ENCAMP NEAR THE HEAD OF THE HERD! BUMPER AND I AND A FEW VOLUNTEERS WILL SPEND THE NIGHT NEAR THE AMMUNITION WAGONS, GUARDING THEM!

SO IF THE REDSKINS DO ATTACK, THEY'LL HAVE TWO FORCES TO RECKON WITH INSTEAD OF CLOSING A TRAP. ON ONE!

HOURS LATER... AS THE MOON RISES HIGH ABOVE THE RESTLESS FLOCKS...

LOOK! THE SHEEP BEGIN TO MOVE FORWARD! SOON THEY WILL BE UPON THE AMMUNITION WAGONS!

THAT WILL BE OUR SIGNAL TO ATTACK THESE PALEFACES! HMM... STRYKER WILL COLLECT A PRICELESS REWARD FOR HIS ASSISTANCE! LOOK AT THOSE SHEEP! THOUSANDS OF THEM GRAZING NEAR TAGOLA CLIFF!

WAIT FOR MY SIGNAL! WE CANNOT BETRAY OUR PRESENCE UNTIL WE ARE UPON THEM!

HMMM... SOMETHING'S BEEN WRONG WITH THE HERD FOR THE PAST HOUR! THEY'RE UNUSUALLY RESTLESS... (GASP!) A KNIFE GLEAM! SINCE WHEN DO WOLVES OR SHEEP CARRY KNIVES?

BUMPER! WAKE UP! QUICKLY!

I'VE GOT IT! WE MAKE A DASH FOR THE HORSES AND START STAMPEDING THE SHEEP TOWARD TAGOLA CLIFF!

RIGHT! WE'LL LOSE HUNDREDS OF SHEEP, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE OUR NECKS, WHILE SLITTING BLUE TOAD'S!

OKAY, BLACK DIAMOND, LET'S GO!

FIRE YOUR GUNS IN THE AIR! MAKE ALL THE NOISE YOU CAN! MAKE THE HERD BEAR LEFT!

W. WHAT ARE THEY DOING? WHY ARE THEY SCREAMING?

RIGHT! YIPPI! YIPPEEE!

THE SHEEP! THEY STAMPEDE! RUN! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!

T. THEY ARE PUSHING US TOWARD TAGOLA CLIFF! YIIIIII!

THERE IS NOWHERE TO RUN! THE SHEEP ARE ALL AROUND US!



WE'RE TRAPPED!!

EEAAA!!

THEY'RE DONE FOR, DIAMOND! ANY INJUN THAT DIDN'T GO OFF TAGOLA CLIFF WAS TRAMPLED TO DEATH!

GOOD RIDDANCE! NOW MAKE TRACKS FOR THE OTHER CAMP! THEY'LL NEED HELP IF THERE'S A SUDDEN ATTACK FROM BEHIND!

WE'RE JUST IN TIME, DIAMOND! THAT STAMPEDE MADE THESE CRITTERS JUMP THE GUN!

GIVE 'EM BLUE BLAZES, BUT I WANT ONE, PRISONER! THESE BUZZARDS KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE ENGLISH CIGARETTE SMOKING LOUSE WHO STARTED ALL THIS TROUBLE! I WANT HIM MOST OF ALL!



THE NEXT MORNING, AT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE...

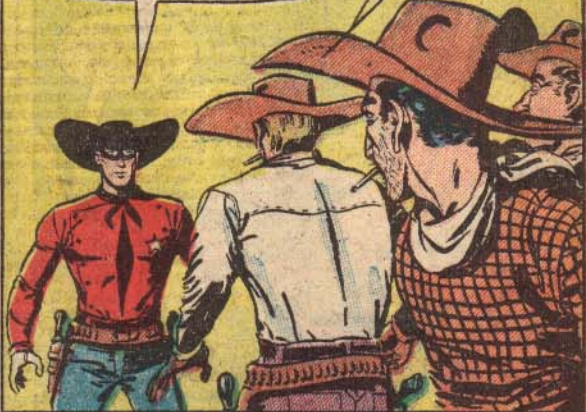
THERE IT IS, SHERIFF... ALL LEGAL AND PROPER! STRONG BOW'S TERRITORY IS NOW MINE, BOUGHT FOR \$20,000! TOO BAD LUDLOW DIED BEFORE HE COULD HANDLE THIS TRANSACTION HIMSELF—NOW I WANT STRONG BOW TO GET OFF MY PROPERTY AT ONCE!

HERE'S STRONG BOW NOW, STRYKER! TELL HIM YOURSELF! TELL HIM HOW YOU TRIED TO INCITE WAR BETWEEN RED MEN AND WHITE SO THAT YOU COULD FEAST OFF THE REMAINS LIKE A VULTURE!



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DOWNER'S DOWNFALL



NO one knew how long Downer Hatch had been prospecting in the vicinity of Grubby Gulch. In fact, no one knew exactly what Downer's name was. He was a steady customer of Sol's Saloon. The story within the confines of Sol's was, the first day Downer came in, old Sol had offered him one on the house. Sol greeted him with, "My name's Sol. Pleased to meetcha'." Downer replied, picking up his glass, "Downer Hatch," and followed his own instructions. From that day forward, because no one was informed otherwise, the old prospector was known as Downer Hatch.

Downer had been panning gold in Grubby Gulch for several years now and always seemed to come forth with enough to down a few every night at Sol's, also to buy a few for some of the other regular customers.

One memorable evening, as Downer was relaying and incurring the latest gold news of the day at Sol's, two newcomers walked into the bar. As Downer was one of the more sociable members of the crowd, he approached the two men and offered them a drink, with the usual greeting, "Downer Hatch," at which point he extended one hand, the other being well occupied.

"Howdy, Mr. Hatch," greeted the taller of the two newcomers. "My name's Grimes, and this is my partner, Taylor."

Grimes, Taylor and Hatch settled themselves comfortably at the bar and indulged in lively discussion as to the prospect of gold in Grubby Gulch. Downer, being well satisfied with his revenue from panning, didn't relay any pertinent information to the newcomers, in fact, he did his best to discourage them.

"There's no gold in that creek and I doubt if there's any in that hill," confided Downer.

"What makes you say that?" queried Taylor.

"What makes people come and go so fast in this town?" continued Hatch. "If there was gold, they'd stick around."

"Maybe you're right," said Grimes, "but I'm willing to take a shot at it myself." As he uttered the word "shot" he tossed a knowing

look at Taylor, which didn't pass Hatch's notice.

"What do you aim to do?" asked Hatch.

"On what we know about Grubby Gulch," continued Grimes, "I'm almost willing to sink a shaft."

"What!" exclaimed Hatch. "That's taking a long chance."

"Maybe so," answered Grimes, "but it takes gold to make gold and from what I understand, the surface has just been scratched here."

"Well," answered Hatch, dubiously, "you're on your own."

Grimes and Taylor left the saloon shortly thereafter and Hatch watched them go with a quizzical expression on his face. "Sol," he said, turning to the saloon owner, "those guys are either real smart or real crazy and I aim to find out which."

"Maybe you're right," answered Sol. "They must know something to be willing to sink a shaft."

"Guess you're right," continued Hatch. "But when you come right down to it, no one has ever sunk a shaft. All there's been is picking and panning with little result. No one thought there was enough there to really dig."

Hatch left the saloon that night with a strange feeling that something big was going to happen around Grubby Gulch before long. He couldn't figure it out. Why would green-horns be willing to sink a shaft without knowing a thing about Grubby Gulch? Maybe they knew a lot more than he gave them credit for. But then, he thought, he, Downer, knew more about gold at Grubby Gulch than any man alive. Well, he'd keep his eyes and ears open.

Hatch had never bothered to take a room in town. He lived in a half-tent, half lean-to near the bank of the stream in the hollow of the gulch. That night as he gazed into his campfire and listened to the gurgling of the stream, a plan slowly evolved in his mind. These two men must know something or they wouldn't be willing to sink a shaft. The minute

(turn page for continuation of story)

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they sink a shaft a rush will start, the buying will be mad and the prices will go sky high. He, Hatch, would just quietly buy a little land while the price was down and he'd have nothing to lose. If he never found gold there he could still build a shack, pan gold and live the rest of his life out in peace. Solving his problems thus, he rolled up in his blanket, the world and gold faded out of mind.

Downer quietly followed his plan the next day. He went to the Land Office and with a handful of dust he'd kept in reserve, he claimed a few square yards of land, enough for a house, enough for a shaft if necessary. He didn't really care, at the moment he found himself a landowner, whether he found gold or whether he built a shack. He just had a stake in part of Grubby Gulch of which he'd become very fond.

Just as he was leaving the land office, Downer noticed Grimes and Taylor going in. Curious though he was, he couldn't stay to find out what they had in mind so, he figured if he went to Sol's, sooner or later either Taylor and Grimes would come in or the news of whatever they were doing would precede them.

Neither Taylor nor Grimes showed up at Sol's but the news arrived. Before long the saloon was stirring with the news that Grimes and Taylor had bought up almost all the mountainside of Grubby Gulch. They were starting operations the next day, sinking a shaft. The strange part of the news was that Downer Hatch seemed to hold the only remaining piece of property in the Gulch. Taylor and Grimes were anxious to get it and couldn't understand what Hatch wanted with it.

Downer watched with great curiosity as they sank the shaft. He still couldn't believe that there was gold in that hill. However, Grimes and Taylor worked with grim determination. One night, after the shaft had been well sunk and operations were ready to begin, Downer was awakened from his quiet brookside slumber by strange sounds. It seemed he heard shots, but the sound was so deadened they seemed very far away. On second thought they didn't sound far away but close and muffled, almost as if someone were shooting underground. Downer gave the matter little thought, chortled and hoped maybe those two rookies had run into an underground monster and were fighting it out to the finish. With that preposterous thought he curled up in his blanket and went to sleep.

The next day as Downer wandered in Sol's, Sol greeted him excitedly. "Hey, Hatch," he cried, "did you hear? Grimes and Taylor have struck it!"

"WHAT!" cried Downer, "I can't believe it. It isn't there."

"Go see for yourself," answered Sol. "I went

early this morning. In fact, I even bought a piece of land quick."

"That's too good to be true!" answered Downer. "I already bought some land. Maybe I'd better get some more."

"Try and get some more," answered Sol. "There's been such a rush on land that it's all bought up."

"Funny thing, them selling," mused Downer. "You'd think they'd keep the lode for themselves."

"Oh, they're keeping the shaft and the vein, but they seem to be willing to sell the rest," continued Sol. "After all, it's quick profit."

"Guess you're right," concluded Downer.

As Downer wandered through town he learned that Taylor and Grimes, within four hours of striking, had sold all the land they'd bought up at about a hundred per cent profit. Downer wandered up to the shaft to see what was going on and after he'd wormed his way through the prospectors, he saw for himself. Gold, real gold! But, he suddenly realized, Taylor and Grimes were nowhere in sight.

Days passed, prospectors busily dug, sank shafts and not a speck of gold appeared. Grimes and Taylor had vanished into the vastness of the west. The more the prospectors dug, they more they realized they'd been duped. Downer wondered, and his curiosity led him to the shaft that Grimes and Taylor had sunk. Day after day he examined the gold and day after day he noticed the gold was vanishing. Suddenly he remembered the night he'd heard the muffled shots. Could it be? He rushed back to his lean-to for his shot gun and a small pocketful of dust he still had in reserve. He loaded the gun, fired gold dust into the wall of the mine. That was it! The gold imbedded in the rock wall looked like a vein. Taylor and Grimes had taken them all for the biggest ride in history.

So overcome with his discovery, Downer rushed into Sol's to relate his tale. Downer had the biggest audience in the history of Sol's Saloon. In fact, his audience was so big, and Downer felt like such a champion of the people, he repeatedly got Sol to serve his audience. The assembly increased with Downer's affluence. A torchlight parade to the scene of the crime was instigated and Downer proved his point by shooting his last remaining cache of gold dust into the wall. Downer proved his point so well that he found he had to cede title to his little piece of property over to Sol to pay for the evening's entertainment.

Shortly after that evening, Downer Hatch moved on, as do all prospectors. Soon after Downer's demise, Sol the saloon keeper struck the biggest lode in the history of Grubby Gulch on Downer's old property. Sol called the mine "Downer's downfall"; the other prospectors dubbed it "Sol's Salvation." *The End*

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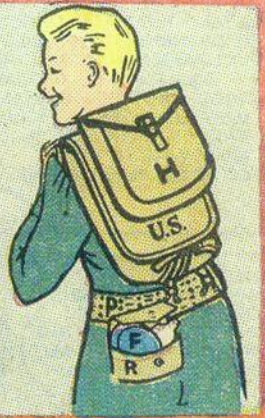
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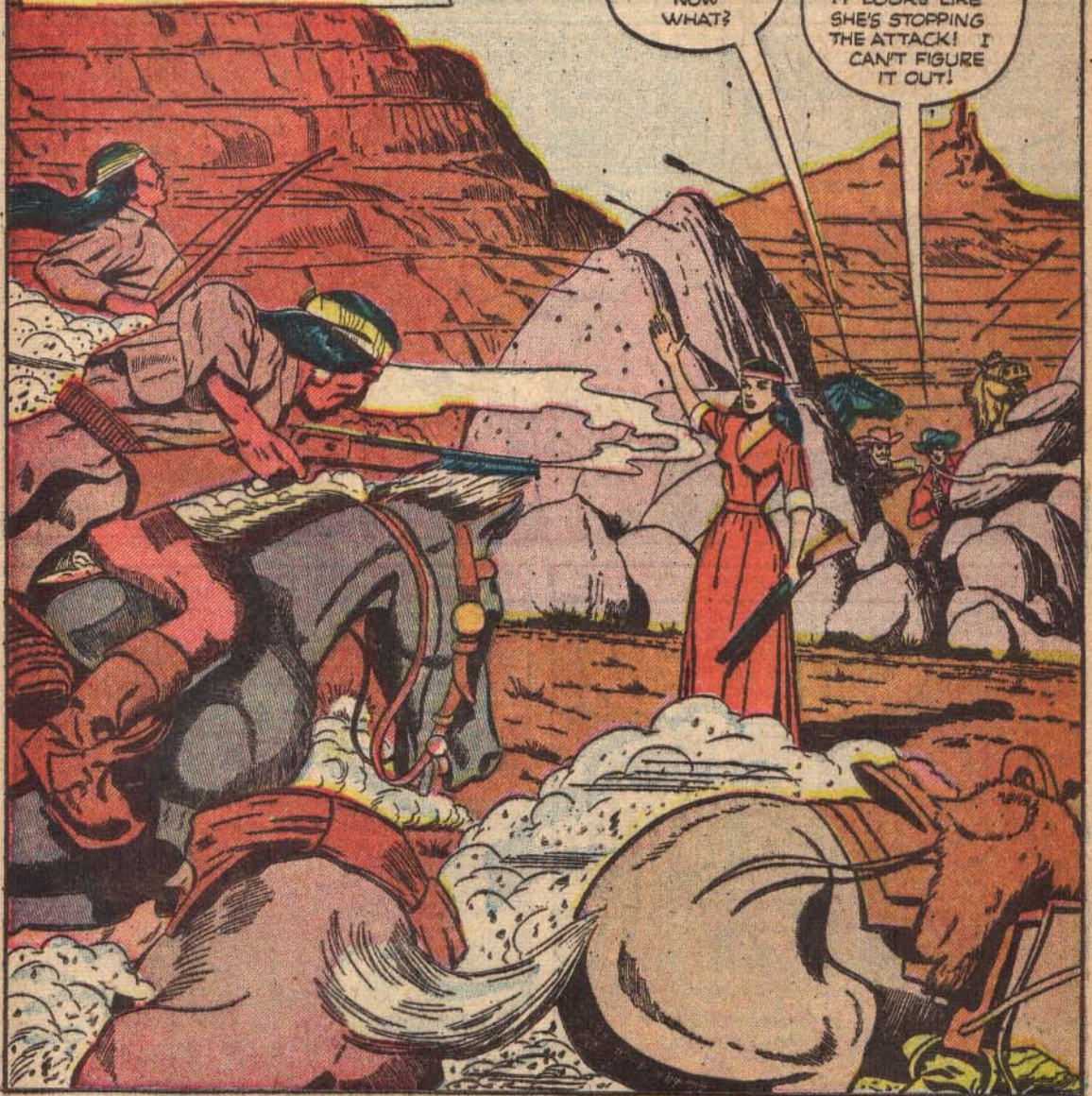
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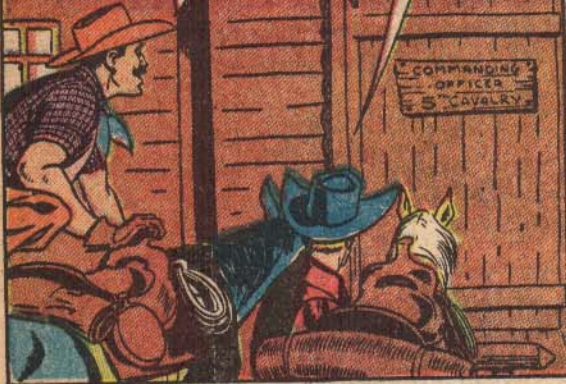
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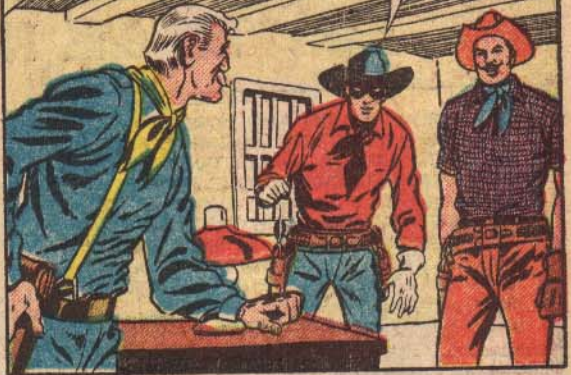
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IF GREY HAWK'S PLANNING WAR, WE'LL GET THE INFORMATION TO YOU, PRONTO!

EXCELLENT! AND IF WE KNOW THEY'RE GOING ON THE WAR-PATH, THAT CHANGES THE AGREEMENT! THEN WE CAN STOP THEM! GOOD LUCK, DIAMOND!



THAT EVENING, DIAMOND AND BUMPER START OUT...

HOW FAR DO WE HAVE TO GO, DIAMOND?

MAYBE TWENTY, THIRTY MILES, BEFORE WE'RE IN GREY HAWK'S TERRITORY! WE'LL TAKE IT EASY, THOUGH! IT'S BETTER TO GET THERE TOWARD MORNING!



MORNING...

IT LOOKS LIKE THE COLONEL'S HUNCH WAS RIGHT, BUMPER! THEY'RE GATHERING FOR A BIG POW WOW, ALL RIGHT! IT'S NOT A TEA PARTY, EITHER! THOSE BRAVES ARE WEARING WAR PAINT! LET'S GET BACK AND TELL THE COLONEL!







WE OWE BOTH OF YOU OUR LIVES! A FEW MINUTES MORE, AND WE'D HAVE BEEN GONERS!

I'M DIGGER MALONE, SON, AN' THIS IS MY DAUGHTER MAGGIE! NOW YOU TWO BETTER MOUNT UP AN' HIGH-TAIL IT OUTTA HERE—FAST, BEFORE THEM BRAVES GET'CHA GOOD!



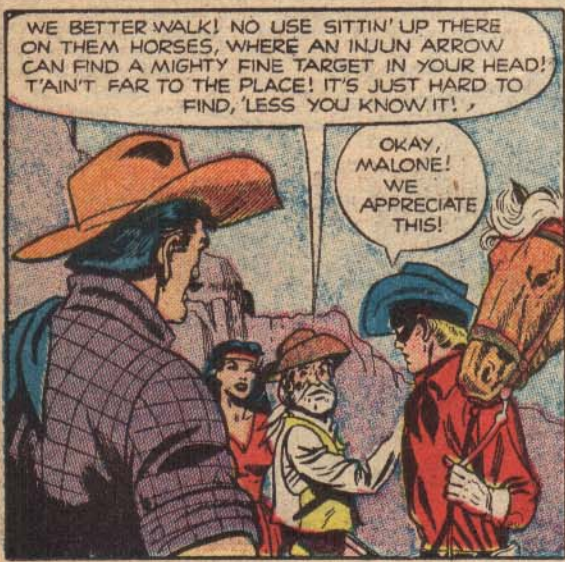
BUT DAD, WE CAN'T SEND THEM AWAY NOW! GREY HAWK'S BRAVES WILL BE WAITING FOR THEM AGAIN! LET'S TAKE THEM HOME FOR NOW!

IT AIN'T OUR BUSINESS, MAGGIE! BE SIDES, YOU KNOW WE DON'T NEVER TAKE NO ONE UP TO OUR PLACE ON HERMIT HILL! NOBODY ON EARTH BUT YOU AN' ME'S EVER BEEN THERE!



VERY WELL! THEN I'LL ESCORT THEM OUT OF THE HILLS MYSELF!

ALL RIGHT, CHILD! WE'LL DO LIKE YOU SAY! WE'LL TAKE 'EM TO OUR PLACE ON HERMIT HILL!



WE BETTER WALK! NO USE SITTIN' UP THERE ON THEM HORSES, WHERE AN INJUN ARROW CAN FIND A MIGHTY FINE TARGET IN YOUR HEAD! T'AIN'T FAR TO THE PLACE! IT'S JUST HARD TO FIND, 'LESS YOU KNOW IT!

OKAY, MALONE! WE APPRECIATE THIS!



WE'LL CROSS THIS STREAM! IT'S A GOOD WAY OF LOSING OUR TRACKS!

YOU SURE KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND THESE HILLS, MALONE!

DAD'S LIVED HERE MOST OF HIS LIFE! NOT EVEN THE EAGLES KNOW THE HILLS AS WELL AS HE DOES! AND NOBODY HAS EVER FOUND OUR PLACE ON HERMIT HILL!



WE STOP HERE! NOW THIS IS A TRICKY ONE! I PULL THIS CLUMP OF BUSHES TO ONE SIDE—YA SEE THAT! NOW GO AHEAD—WALK IN!



BUT AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO ENTER THE SECRET TUNNEL, TWO OF GREY HAWK'S SCOUTS ARE WATCHING.

I FOUND THIS PLACE YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS PROSPECTIN'! AN' I'VE KEPT IT A SECRET ALL THIS TIME!

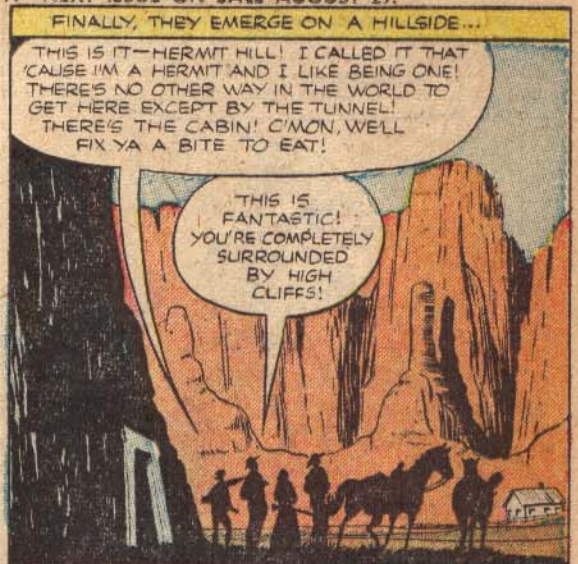
IT'LL REMAIN A SECRET AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED, MALONE!

WELL, LET'S GO!



WHERE DOES THIS TUNNEL LEAD TO, MALONE?

TO A SPOT ON HERMIT HILL WHERE WE LIVE! YA SEE THEM TORCHES? I KEEP 'EM BURNING ALL THE TIME! NOT MUCH LIGHT BUT IT HELPS! THERE'S A CURVE UP AHEAD—WATCH YOUR STEP!



FINALLY, THEY EMERGE ON A HILLSIDE...

THIS IS IT—HERMIT HILL! I CALLED IT THAT 'CAUSE I'M A HERMIT AND I LIKE BEING ONE! THERE'S NO OTHER WAY IN THE WORLD TO GET HERE EXCEPT BY THE TUNNEL! THERE'S THE CABIN! C'MON, WE'LL FIX YA A BITE TO EAT!

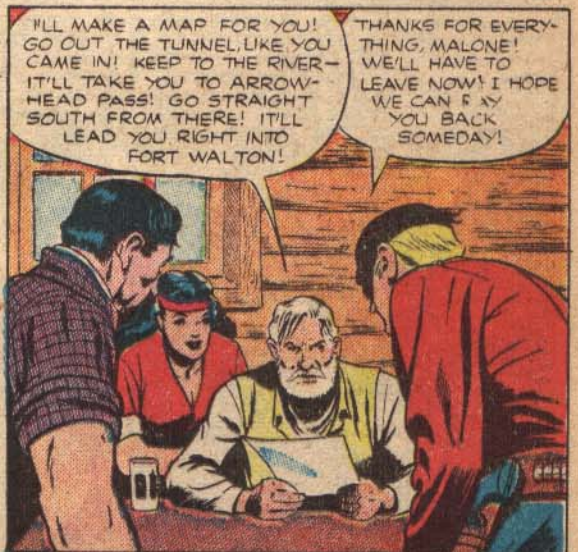
THIS IS FANTASTIC! YOU'RE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY HIGH CLIFFS!



YOUR HOSPITALITY IS SWELL, BUT WE MUST LEAVE HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! I'VE GOT TO INFORM THE U.S. CAVALRY AT FORT WALTON THAT GREY HAWK IS PREPARING FOR WAR!

LEAVING'S EASY! AN' WE'LL SHOW YOU A WAY TO AVOID THE INJUNS!

THAT SURE SMELLS GOOD! AND AM I HUNGRY!



I'LL MAKE A MAP FOR YOU! GO OUT THE TUNNEL, LIKE YOU CAME IN! KEEP TO THE RIVER—IT'LL TAKE YOU TO ARROWHEAD PASS! GO STRAIGHT SOUTH FROM THERE! IT'LL LEAD YOU RIGHT INTO FORT WALTON!

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, MALONE! WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE NOW! I HOPE WE CAN FIX YOU BACK SOMEDAY!



GOOD-BY, BLACK DIAMOND, AND GOOD LUCK! PERHAPS WE SHALL MEET AGAIN!

BUT DON'T BRING NOBODY BACK WITH YOU, OR SO HELP ME EVEN IF YOU'RE A U.S. MARSHAL, I'LL BLOW YOU TO THE SKY!

DON'T WORRY! WE'LL KEEP HERMIT HILL A SECRET!



THEY MAKE THEIR WAY THROUGH THE TUNNEL, THEN TO THE RIVER AND FINALLY THE ROAD TO ARROWHEAD PASS...

SAY, DIAMOND, DON'T YOU THINK THAT THE GIRL IS AN INDIAN?

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT! BUT I'M NOT HANKERING TO PRY INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS!



SUDDENLY...

DIAMOND! LOOK BACK THERE! SMOKE!

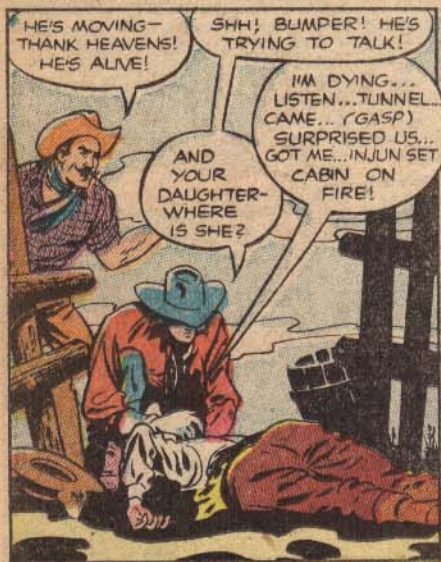
IT'S COMING FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF HERMIT HILL! WE'RE GOING BACK BUMPER! THAT SMOKE SMELLS LIKE TROUBLE!



WE'LL LOSE MAYBE HALF AN HOUR—BUT WE'LL MAKE IT UP LATER! IN ANY EVENT, WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT IF THEY'RE IN TROUBLE—AND IF SO, HELP 'EM OUT!



HURRY, BUMPER! THE CABIN'S RUINED AND POOR OLD MALONE LOOKS DEAD! AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF THE GIRL!



HE'S MOVING—THANK HEAVENS! HE'S ALIVE!

SHH! BUMPER! HE'S TRYING TO TALK!

I'M DYING... LISTEN... TUNNEL... CAME... (GASP) SURPRISED US... GOT ME... INJUN SET CABIN ON FIRE!

AND YOUR DAUGHTER—WHERE IS SHE?



GREY HAWKS MEN TOOK HER! MUSTA SEEN HER RING... SAVE HER, DIAMOND...

RING?



YES... RING TATTOOED ON MIDDLE FINGER... LEFT HAND... TATTOO SIGN OF INJUN PRINCESS! SHE'S NOT MY REAL DAUGHTER... SHE'S A PRINCESS! LISTEN, GOTTA TELL YOU ABOUT IT...



IT HAPPENED TEN YEARS AGO... MAGGIE'S FATHER, GREY FEATHER, WAS CHIEF OF THE TRIBE! HIS MOST TRUSTED SCOUT WAS GREY HAWK, WHO STARTED A CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIM! GREY HAWK ATTACKED UNEXPECTEDLY ONE DAY AND THE CHIEF'S LOYAL FOLLOWERS NEVER HAD A CHANCE!



THEY WERE KILLED...THE CHIEF AND HIS BRAVES...AND THE LITTLE PRINCESS WAS LEFT FOR DEAD!

WE MUST KEEP THIS SECRET WITH US! NONE SHALL EVER KNOW WE KILLED THEM! NOW I WILL REIGN AS CHIEF! I SHALL GOVERN THE TRIBE--IN MY OWN WAY!



THEY LEFT...I CAME ALONG AND HEARD THE LITTLE GIRL CRYING...

MY DADDY'S DEAD!

THERE, THERE, SWEETIE! YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT! DIGGER MALONE'S TAKIN' CARE OF YOU NOW! OLD DIGGER WILL SEE THAT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! NOW STOP THAT CRYIN'!



THEN SHE'S THE RIGHTFUL RULER OF THE TRIBE--AND NOT GREY HAWK! DIDN'T YOU EVER TELL ANYBODY?

NO! I WAS AFRAID! I'D JUST LOST MY OWN WIFE AND GIRL A MONTH BEFORE! I WANTED A DAUGHTER SO BAD I DIDN'T WANT ANYBODY TO KNOW! THAT'S WHY WE LIVED ON HERMIT'S HILL!



SAVE HER! SAVE MAGGIE-- SAVE THE PRINCESS! PLEASE SAVE HER...UHH..

POOR OLD MALONE-- HE'S GONE!

AND WE'VE GOT A JOB TO DO!



THE INDIANS MUST'VE BEEN ON FOOT! THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF HOOFPRINTS AROUND HERE! THAT'S A BREAK! THEY'VE GOT A HEAD START, BUT WE'LL CATCH THEM ON HORSEBACK!

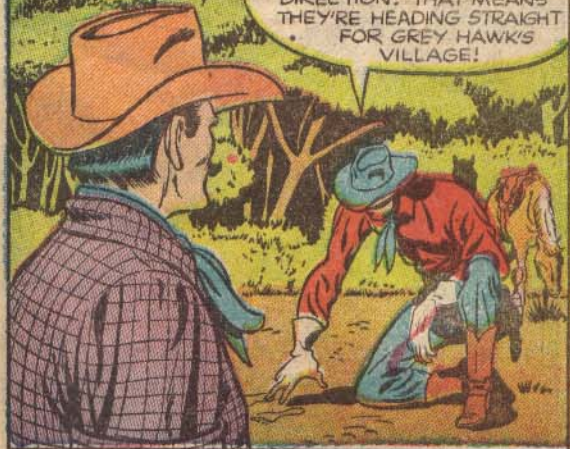
C'MON, BUMPER-- LET'S GO!



OUTSIDE THE TUNNEL, ON THE NEARBY ROCKS...

WHAT DO YOU SEE THERE, DIAMOND?

SIGNS OF MOCCASINS SCUFFED ON THESE ROCKS! THEY PASSED THIS WAY IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION! THAT MEANS THEY'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR GREY HAWK'S VILLAGE!



LATER...

THERE THEY ARE DOWN YONDER! COME ON, BUMPER! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!



LATER, FAR UP THE TRAIL, DIAMOND ASKS BUMPER TO DISMOUNT AND...



IT'LL TAKE 'EM AT LEAST AN HOUR MORE TO REACH THE VILLAGE! MEANWHILE, WE'LL RIDE TO A SPOT FAR IN FRONT OF THEM! AFTER THAT, OUR PLAN GOES INTO ACTION...AND IT HAD BETTER WORK! I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHY THEY'RE ON FOOT, BUT THAT'S OUR LUCK!



I DON'T GET IT, DIAMOND!

YOU WILL, IN A MOMENT! FIRST, WE'LL MAKE A SMALL FIRE, SURROUNDED BY STONES SO IT WON'T SPREAD!



NOW WRAP THESE BULLETS IN WET LEAVES!

THIS LOOKS MORE AND MORE LIKE A CHINESE CROSS-WORD PUZZLE!



YOU SEE - THIS SPOT HERE IS ONLY A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE TRAIL UP WHICH THE BRAVES WILL BRING THE GIRL! BY THE TIME THEY GET HERE THE FIRE WILL HAVE BURNED THROUGH THE WET LEAVES AND WILL SET OFF THE BULLETS!



THE BRAVES WILL THINK THERE'S AN ATTACK - AND FOR A MOMENT THE GIRL WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO ESCAPE! RELIAPON WILL GALLOP IN AND THE GIRL CAN ESCAPE ON HIM!

MEANWHILE, WHAT DO WE DO?



WE'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO THE INDIAN VILLAGE - AND GET TO WORK IN AN ATTEMPT TO STOP A WAR! RELIAPON WILL BRING THE GIRL THERE TO JOIN US, EH, BOY? HE UNDERSTANDS! C'MON, BUMPER - EL LOBO WILL HAVE TO DO DOUBLE DUTY!

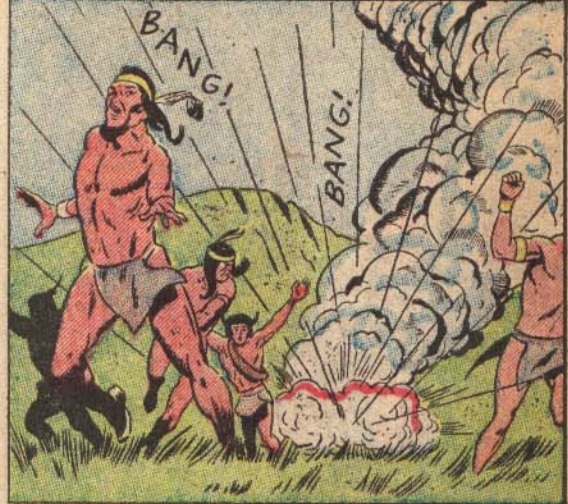


RELIAPON WILL STAY HIDDEN UNTIL THE BULLETS POP OFF... THEN HE'LL GALLOP UP TO THE GIRL'S SIDE! SO LONG, BOY - SEE YOU AT THE VILLAGE!

A HALF-HOUR LATER, GREY HAWK'S WARRIORS APPROACH THEIR DESTINATION...



AT THAT MOMENT THE WET LEAVES HAVE DRIED OUT, AND...



AS GREY HAWK'S MEN RUN OFF, RELIAPON DASHES TO THE RESCUE OF THE INDIAN PRINCESS...



THE INDIANS DISCOVER THE RUSE - BUT TOO LATE - AS RELIAPON GALLOPS OFF BEFORE A HAIL OF ARROWS!



MEANWHILE, BLACK DIAMOND AND BUMPER ARRIVE AT GREY HAWK'S VILLAGE...







YES, YES! THE PALEFACE SPEAKS THE TRUTH! IT IS THE RING! SHE IS OUR PRINCESS!

GREY HAWK KILLED MY FATHER—BUT I LIVED! I HAVE RETURNED TO YOU!

DEATH TO GREY HAWK!



WHERE IS HE? HE HAS GONE! GREY HAWK HAS FLED! AFTER HIM!

BUT AS THE BRAVES ARE ABOUT TO TAKE CHASE, BUMPER CARRIES IN GREY HAWK—UNCONSCIOUS...



I SAW HIM SNEAK AWAY SO I WENT AFTER HIM! WELL, HERE HE IS!

GOOD WORK, BUMPER!



NOW THERE SHALL BE NO WAR! THAT SHALL BE MY MESSAGE TO THE COLONEL! WE'D BETTER TAKE GREY HAWK BACK AS OUR PRISONER! HE SHOULD BE MADE TO PAY FOR HIS WRONGS!

NO, BLACK DIAMOND! YOU CANNOT TAKE HIM BACK!



INDIAN JUSTICE—NOT PALEFACE JUSTICE—SHALL DECIDE HIS FATE! AND WHAT OF YOUR FATE, BLACK DIAMOND? DO YOU STAY HERE?

I MUST GO BACK, MAGGIE—BUT ONE DAY, PERHAPS I SHALL RETURN! UNTIL THEN—GOOD-BY!



THE RIVER'S COURSE LEADS ALWAYS TO THE SEA! MAYBE THE MASKED ONE'S COURSE SHALL LEAD BACK HERE!

I THINK NOT! HE IS LIKE THE WIND THAT GOES ALL PLACES, NEVER STOPPING AT ONE! FAREWELL, BLACK DIAMOND!

THE END

MANY
Hollywood
 Stars

YOU CAN TOO!

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BINGBANG BUSTER



WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, HEDY, IS THAT I CAN SNOOZE WHILE YOU CRUISE, AND I ALWAYS FEEL SAFE! WAKE ME UP AT THE NEXT TOWN!

U.S. BOMB-TESTING GROUNDS
KEEP OUT!
DANGER!
TEST EXPLOSIONS
NOW IN PROGRESS

SCREAM!
BLOW!
GO AWAY!

BEAT IT!

BY BASIL BOMBBERK WOLVERTON

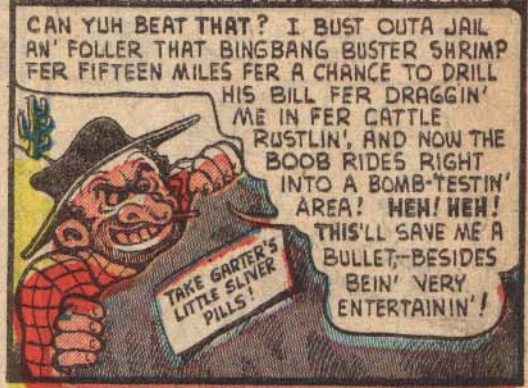
A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...



WE'RE READY FOR THE NEXT TEST BLAST, KERNEL MCNAST! THE SPECIAL BOMB IS OUT THERE IN THE DESERT, AND WE'LL TRY EXPLODING IT WITH THIS NEW RADIO DETONATOR!

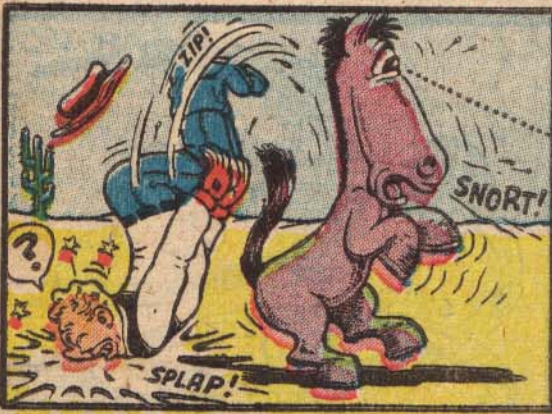
GOOD! AS SOON AS I DITCH THIS SANDWICH, I'LL PITCH THE SWITCH, LT. TWITCH!

AND A FEW HUNDRED FEET BEHIND BINGBANG...



CAN YUH BEAT THAT? I BUST OUTTA JAIL AN' FOLLER THAT BINGBANG BUSTER SHRIMP FER FIFTEEN MILES FER A CHANCE TO DRILL HIS BILL FER DRAGGIN' ME IN FER CATTLE RUSTLIN', AND NOW THE BOOB RIDES RIGHT INTO A BOMB-TESTIN' AREA! HEH! HEH! THIS'LL SAVE ME A BULLET, BESIDES BEIN' VERY ENTERTAININ'!

TAKE GARTER'S LITTLE SLIVER PILLS!



ZIP!

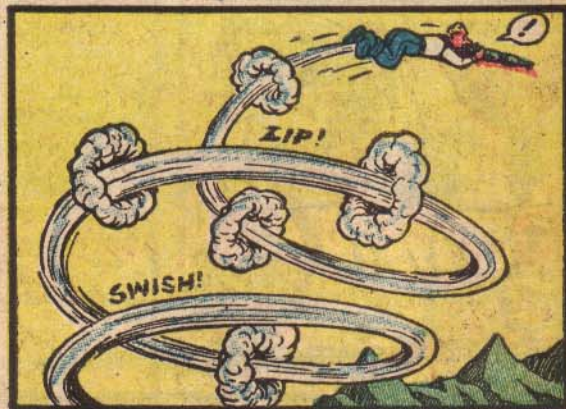
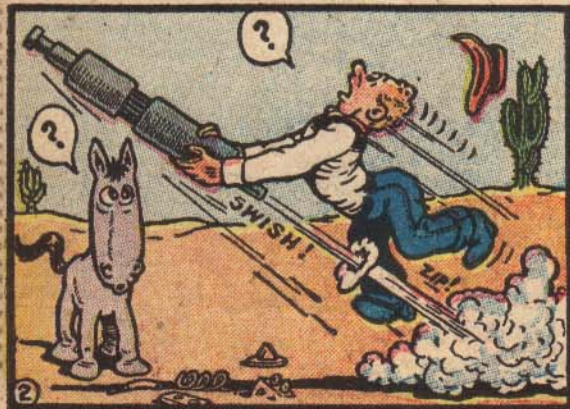
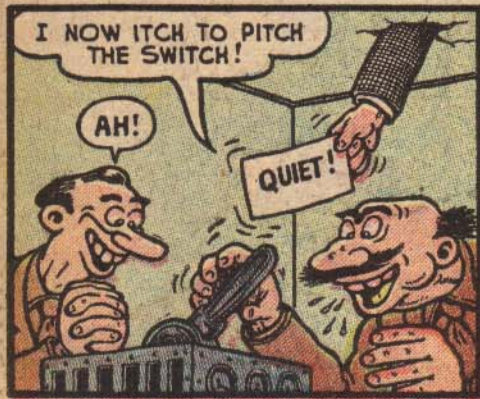
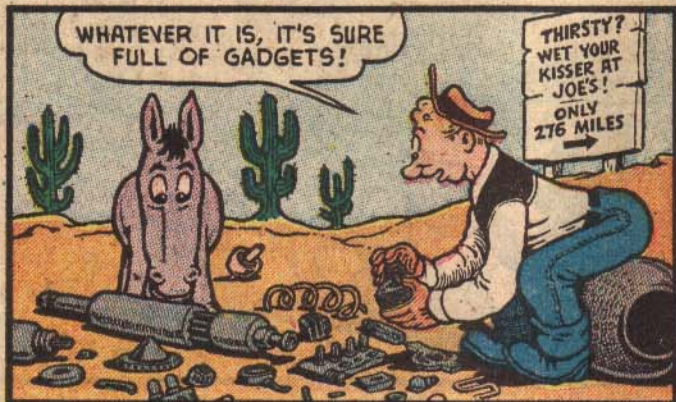
SNORT!

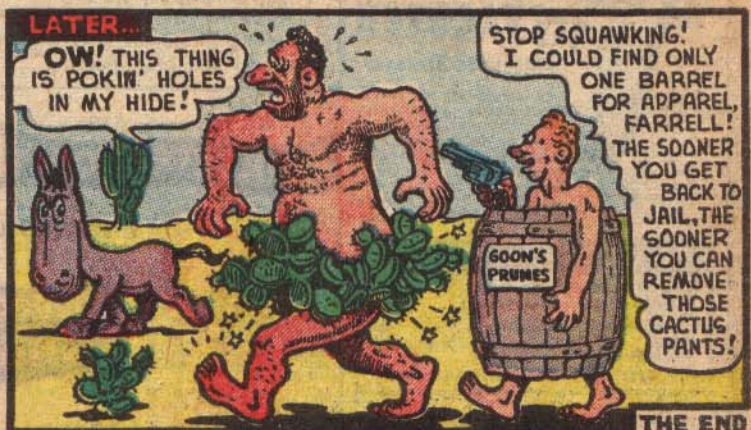
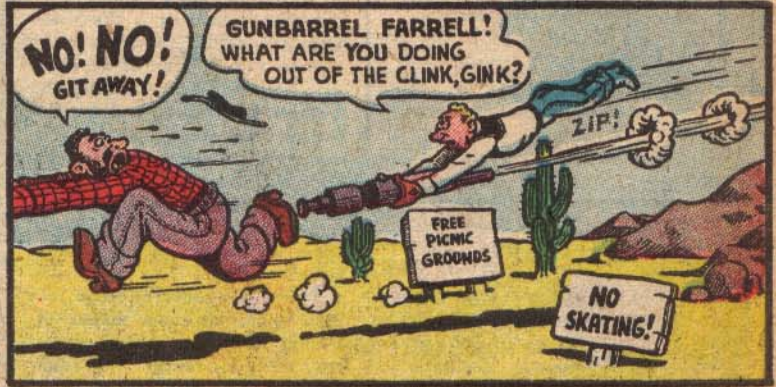
SPLAP!



HEY! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THROWING ME OFF?

DON'T FORGET YOUR EARPLUGS!





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STAMP PAGE

by *SIDNEY M. ELIAS*

Why Save Stamps?

HAVE you ever heard someone say "Why do you save stamps?" or, "Why do you spend money for stamps that are already cancelled?" Perhaps you have heard the same thing said in a different way however, the following will give you an idea of why others save stamps.

Stamp collecting is the most popular hobby among men, women and children of all walks of life. Kings, presidents, bankers, bootblacks, and the kid around the corner, all have a common interest in stamps. Its their hobby and they get many hours of pleasure from their collections whether it be in a handsome leather bound album or a dime notebook.

To the boy collector, large colorful pictorials, odd shapes or stamps from far away places may meet his fancy. The adult collector may go in for rare errors or advanced stamps. But, no matter whether it is the boy who spends a few pennies for his stamps or the adult who spends many dollars, the interest in their hobby is the same.

It is fascinating to the boy collector to obtain stamps from far away places for he pictures in his mind the distances in which the stamp may have travelled. Perhaps it was carried by a native, then transferred to a camel or donkey, then on a steamer or even an airplane, and finally to end up in his collection. If stamps could talk each one could tell a most interesting story.

Aside from being a hobby, the collecting of stamps is very educational and profitable. From the designs pictured on them, one can get an interesting idea of the history and geography of a country; its agricultural products and mineral resources; its language and monetary units; and a general idea of its cities and people.

In general, the collecting of stamps provides one with an interesting hobby affording many hours of pleasure and at the same time gives one a liberal education. In addition, it gives the junior collector an idea of values when he engages in trading his duplicates.



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Your Name on it

"Hey, You SKINNY Bag of Bones!"

That's what the boys shouted at me ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO...

But look at me NOW, PAL...

A Trophy-Winning JOWETT HE-MAN
Like YOU can be SOON!

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YES! JOHN SILL'S SUCCESS STORY can soon be your own success story. HOW A THIN WEAKLING WINS A TROPHY AS A MAGNIFICENT AMERICAN HE-MAN. A few weeks ago, John was a skinny weakling. Everybody picked on him. He had no punch, no guts to fight for his rights. TODAY everyone admires John's movie-star champion build — his mighty ARMS, his heroic CHEST, his rock-like TORSO, his broad BACK, his military SHOULDERS. His newly-born POPULARITY with fellows. The way GIRLS flock around him. His prowess on the ATHLETIC field. His double energy at work.

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are, if you're 14 or 40; if you're short or tall, or what work you do. All I want is JUST 10 EXCITING MINUTES in your own home to MAKE YOU OVER by the SAME METHOD I turned myself from a wreck to a Champion of Champions.

Which of these 2 one time WEAKLINGS PAID only a Few Cents to become an All-Around HE-MAN? Which One Paid Hundreds Of Dollars?



Rex Ferrus was a weakling, paid a few cents to start building at home into a Champion All-Around He-Man!
Larry Campbell paid me hundreds of dollars to train at my side years ago. Start to become an All-Around He-Man at home with these same secrets for only a few cents like Rex Ferrus did! Now Rex is tops in Sports, Job, Popularity, as you can be.

YES! You'll see INCH upon INCH of MIGHTY MUSCLE added to YOUR ARMS. Your CHEST deepened. Your BACK AND SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels, you'll gain SOLIDITY, SIZE, POWER, SPEED! You'll become an All-Around, All-American HE-MAN, a WINNER in everything you tackle—or my Training won't cost you one single solitary cent!

Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES Gain Pounds; INCHES, FAST! Friend, I've travelled the world. Made a LIFETIME STUDY of every way known to develop your body. Then I devised the BEST by TEST, my "5-WAY PROGRESSIVE POWER" the only method that builds you 5-ways fast. You save YEARS, DOLLARS like movie star Tom Tyler did. Like Champ John Sill did. Like MANY THOUSANDS like you did. So MAIL COUPON NOW!

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Dept. LG-17
230 Fifth Ave., N. Y. 1, N. Y.

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NOW for quick action and get **FREE PHOTO BOOK**

HOW YOU CAN BECOME AN ALL-AROUND ALL-AMERICAN HE-MAN In 10 THRILLING MINUTES A DAY



George F. Jowett
Whom experts call "Champion of Champions"
• World's wrestling and weight lifting champ.
• World's Strongest Arms.
• 4 Times "World's Perfect Body" Winner.

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230 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.
Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4. How to Build a Mighty Back. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs—Now all in One Volume "How to become a Muscular He-Man." ENCLOSED FIND 10¢ FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (No C.O.D.'s).

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—G. F. Kelsey, Physical Director.

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"The watch for active men — last word in smart styling! Sparkling Pseudo Diamonds and Rubies set around dial. Solid Gold Color Effect, chromed back. Unbreakable crystal. Large sweep-second hand. Imported case resists shocks. Rugged Swiss movement — really accurate. Unlimited Guarantee. Exclusive of Parts! Formerly \$24.95. Special **9.99** SALE price now, only.

DATE WATCH



DATE SHOWS IN WINDOW

What a timepiece! Tells DATE and accurate TIME. Date changes every minute in tiny WINDOW. Sweep second hand. Satiny silver-color case. Unbreakable crystal. Swee-rite Guarantee exclusive of parts. Mighty good looks. This is a terrific value! **7.99** RUSH! Only.

BIG SIZE! PUSH BUTTON SWITCH-KNIFE



1.65

PRESS BUTTON TO OPEN

Surprise your friends with this amazing PUSH-BUTTON knife! Every man should carry one! — inch blade of sharp steel! Just push button! Blade flies open light-ning-fast! Notice bolsters for sure hand grip and safety lock. Some knife! Some **1.65** buy! Only **1.65**

AMAZING WEATHER "ROSE"



Place near window — see color changes like magic! **RED** — allegedly indicates rain, storms; **BLUE** — fair and sunny; **PURPLE** — changes coming! Amazing every-one! Beautiful, decorative. Flower pot given. **98¢**

Meo's INITIAL Ring



2.97

Your own INITIAL in raised Gold stone, flanked by 2 Sparkling Pseudo DIAMONDS imported from Europe. 14 Karat Rolled Gold Plate! — enjoy a lifetime. Mention letter desired. Only **2.97**

SOLID SILVER



BIG! HEAVY

Ruby ARMY Ring

It's terrific! Extra heavy **SOLID STERLING SILVER**. Deep embossed Real ARMY style ring for red-blooded Americans. Big simulated **RUBY** in centre, cut inside. Sparkles with rays of red, fiery light. Super-special quality. Win popularity! Wear with pride! Lifetime value! Only **3.95**

Eternal Love



ENGAGEMENT AND WEDDING SET

Something special and very pretty! Imagine — 12 Sparkling Pseudo DIAMONDS, imported from Europe, set in a gorgeous engagement and wedding set! **NATURAL GOLD** color, both **4.99** yet they look like **\$750.00** of light. Enjoy a **LIFETIME!** Try our risk! Price back quick if not thrilled! **RUSH!** Don't lose this golden opportunity!

2 IN 1 CASE & CIGARET LIGHTER



Slip your whole pack into this sleek handsome, combination case and built-in, Sure-Fire Lighter. No more fumbling around for cigarettes or matches! Bargain price! **94¢**

Ladies' SPORTEX Watch



6.99

Sturdy, accurate watch for active women, girls, typists, etc. Luminous numbers and unbreakable crystal. Dainty and rich looking. Reduced to **6.99**

SEND NO MONEY!

The Champion



Super Special Quality — a sure winner! Amazing! Real massive, manly! Solid Gold Color effect. Big pseudo Diamond in centre flanked by 2 others. **4.95**

Loyale Wedding Set



10 glistening brilliant diamonds featured in set. Gorgeous gold color. Fashionable! Compare! Both rings **2.94**

Commando "5"



5 big, impressive Pseudo Diamonds of fiery brilliancy. Extra-heavy weight, natural Gold color, with **\$750.00** appearance! Many! Commando respect! **3.55**

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131 West 33rd Street, New York 1, N. Y.
Write in articles desired in lines below. Send no money. Pay price shown plus few cents postage and tax on delivery. Try 10 days. Full price back if not pleased.

Name _____
Address _____
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SEND STRIP OF PAPER TO SHOW RING SIZE.

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*Mothers-
Housewives-*
HERE'S AN AMAZING
New Plan!

Gorgeous Dresses for You *without* *paying 1¢...*

YOUR CHOICE
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100 BEAUTIFUL
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AND OPPORTUNITY TO EARN UP TO \$7.00 IN A DAY
IN EASY DELIGHTFUL SPARE TIME VISITING!



↑
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NAVY—Luana
Faile—two
leather-stitched
bands of exciting
color sweep
across bodice
and down the
skirt.

→
LUSTROUS
GABARDINE—
charming, youth-
ful, exquisitely-
tailored suit—Robin Red,
Sherwood Green, Navy
Sheen.

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AT FAR RIGHT
WONDERFUL LYNNIN—
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ful gingham. Colors—
Boxwood Green or Blue-
bonnet.

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And here's more great news! If you prefer, you can make good money taking orders—actually up to \$7.00 in a single day—because famous Harford Frocks are so exclusive, so well made, so utterly charming, and such wonderful values, that dozens and dozens of women who see them will give you their orders. Yes, when you rush the coupon below you are entering on an exciting adventure . . . dresses of your own without cost—money of your own for all the things you'd like to have. No matter where you live or what your age, rush this coupon now. SEND NO MONEY. Everything you need to start will be rushed to you ABSOLUTELY FREE!

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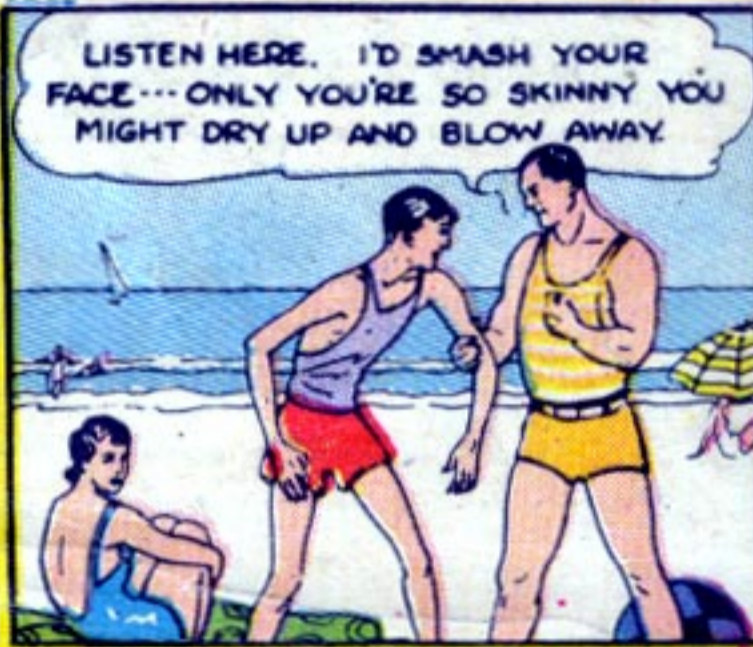
HOW JOE'S BODY
BROUGHT HIM

FAME INSTEAD OF SHAME



HEY! QUIT KICKING THAT SAND IN OUR FACES!

THAT MAN IS THE WORST NUISANCE ON THE BEACH



LISTEN HERE. I'D SMASH YOUR FACE... ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY.

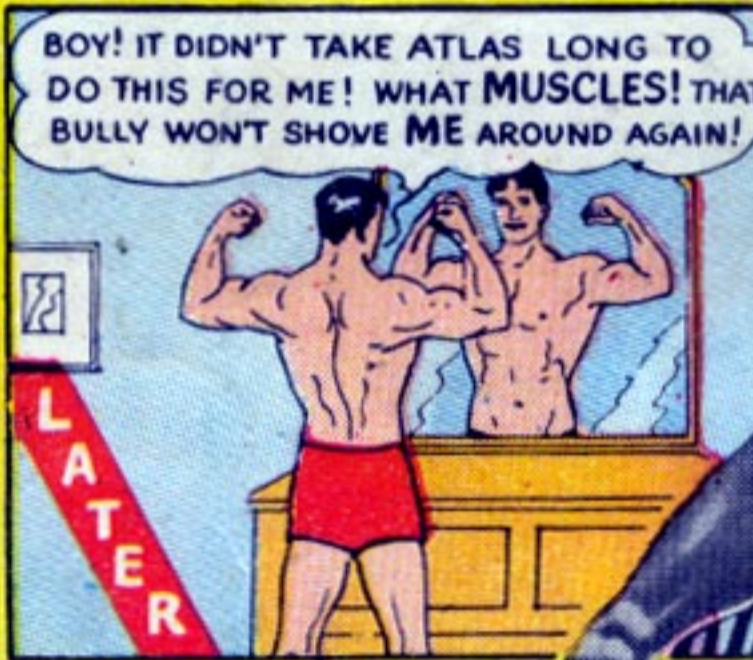


THE BIG BULLY! I'LL GET EVEN SOME DAY

OH DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU, LITTLE BOY!



DARN IT! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING A SCARECROW! CHARLES ATLAS SAYS HE CAN GIVE ME A REAL BODY. ALL RIGHT! I'LL GAMBLE A STAMP AND GET HIS FREE BOOK!



BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!

LATER



WHAT! YOU HERE AGAIN? HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU!



OH, JOE! YOU ARE A REAL MAN AFTER ALL!

HERO OF THE BEACH

GOSH! WHAT A BUILD

HE'S ALREADY FAMOUS FOR IT!

I Can Make YOU a New Man, Too, in Only 15 Minutes a Day!

If YOU, like Joe, have a body that others can "push around"—if you're ashamed to strip for sports or a swim—then give me just 15 minutes a day! I'll PROVE you can have a body you'll be proud of, packed with red-blooded vitality! "Dynamic Tension." That's the secret! That's how I changed myself from a spindle-shanked, scrawny weakling to winner of the title, "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

"Dynamic Tension" Does It!

Using "Dynamic Tension" only 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own room, you quickly begin to put on muscle, increase your chest measurements, broaden your back, fill out your arms and legs. Before you know it, this easy,

NATURAL method will make you a finer specimen of REAL MANHOOD than you ever dreamed you could be! You'll be a New Man!

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Thousands of fellows have used my marvelous system. Read what they say—see how they looked before and after—in my book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

Send NOW for this book—FREE. It tells all about "Dynamic Tension," shows you actual photos of men I've turned from puny weaklings into Atlas Champions. It tells how I can do the same for YOU. Don't put it off! Address me personally: Charles Atlas, Dept. 254G 115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N.Y.



Charles Atlas

—actual photo of the man who holds the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man."

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I want the proof that your system of "Dynamic Tension" will help make a New Man of me—give me a healthy, husky body and big muscular development. Send me your free book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

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